ANNUAL 1986 REPORT

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

87-03477/

Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture Annual Report

For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1985
and Activities Report for the year ending
December 31, 1986

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ACTS

Pursuant to Executive Council Minute M37/84, the Department is responsible for the administration of the following Acts:

Agricultural Chemicals Act
Agricultural Standards Act
Agricultural Products Marketing Act
Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development (PEI) Act
Agrologist Act
Apiary Inspection Act
Artificial Insemination Act
Bang's Disease Eradication Act
Crop Insurance Act
Dairy Producers Act
Dairy Products Act
Division Fence Act
Dog Act
Domestic Animals Act
Farm Implement Act
Federal Dairying Company Act
Field-Root Seeds Zoning Act
Grain Elevators Act
Land Development Corporation Act
Livestock Branding or Tattooing Act
Livestock Community Auction Sales Act
Margarine Act
Marketing Act
Milk Act
Mink Protection Act
Natural Products Marketing Act
Pesticides Control Act
Plant Disease Eradication Act
Potato Crop Mortgage Act
Potato Production Act
Poultry and Poultry Products Act
Race Horse Inspection Act
Veterinary Assistance Act
Veterinary Profession Act
Women's Institute Act

Agriculture in 1986

A cooler than normal growing season in the province contributed to poorer than average yields in certain crops. The grain crop produced some record yields exceeding the previous year's impressive crop. Livestock prices were strong in the latter part of 1986. Slaughter numbers were marginally lower for hogs, while beef slaughter enjoyed a significant increase.

Potatoes

The cool, damp season contributed to a later than average harvest season for much of the province's potato crop in 1986. Acreage fell to 70,000 planted acres, a drop of 8 per cent due in part to poor prices received by producers for the 1985 potato crop. Estimated average yields rose to 225 cwt. per acre from 240 cwt. per acre the previous year. resulting in total estimated production of 17,850,000 cwt.

Field Crops

A slight decrease in acreage of fodder corn and mixed grain contributed to acreage increases in each of wheat, oats, barley and soybeans in 1986. Increased yields were experienced in all but fodder corn and soybeans, both of which were hindered by the lack of heat units required for optimal growth. A world-wide surplus of grain has caused this year's prices to remain depressed, at about 20 per cent below the 1985 prices.

Berries

Some areas of the province experienced frost damage resulting in variations in yields for blueberries. Prices were stronger than the previous year. Strawberry yields were termed fair which kept fresh market demand strong. The decline in supply resulted in no Island strawberries going for processing this year. Frost struck the cranberry crop destroying close to the entire harvest.

Vegetables

Acreage of vegetables in 1986 was down from the previous year. Acreages included beans - 20; beets - 10; cabbage -225; carrots -200; corn -75; cucumbers -50; lettuce - 35; parsnips -25; tomatoes -6; rutabagas -500; and processing peas - . Cole crop production was lower, with approximately 190 acres planted. These consisted of broccoli, brussel sprouts and cauliflower.

Tobacco

The tobacco crop for 1986 was reported as light with a recorded yield of 1540 pounds per acre, down about 6 per cent from the previous year. Seventy-two growers produced a total of 5.7 million pounds.

Honey

Nine hundred colonies were reported in production in 1986, with a drop in yield per colony to an estimated 80 pounds. The number of beekeepers has dropped to 120 from 145 in 1985.

Poultry & Eggs

There was little change in production levels or in farm cash receipts in the egg industry in 1986. However, a stronger poultry market brought farm cash receipts up from the previous year.

Swine

The average price for an index 100 market hog in 1986 was $81.25 per cwt., an 18.9 per cent increase over the previous year's average of $68.13 per cwt.. The total number of hogs slaughtered during the year at both federally and provincially inspected slaughter plants in 1986 dropped from one year earlier by around 2 per cent. The total number of pigs on farm at October 1, 1986 dropped only slightly to an estimated 113,000 from the revised figure of 114,000 one year ago.

Beef

Beef slaughter numbers in 1986 were reported as just more than 29,700 through the federally inspected slaughter plants. This represents a slaughter increase of over 14 per cent from 1985. Preliminary estimates for farm cash receipts for 1986 indicate an increase of about 22 per cent. The estimate for inventory of cattle and calves on farms in 1986 is 98,000, unchanged from 1985.

Sheep & Lambs

Total sheep and lambs on Island farms at July 1, 1986 reflected a 7 per cent drop from 1985 to 8,100. Farm Cash Receipts for 1986 reflect an increase of close to 30 per cent from 1985.

Dairy

Dairy production recovered slightly in the 1985-86 dairy year at 97.5 million litres, up from 96.3 million litres one year ago. Industrial use increased by about 4 per cent this year while the fluid market remained relatively stable.

Farm Net Income

Farm Cash Receipts are estimated to approach $181 million in 1986, up from $176 million in 1985, fuelled by a projected $9.5 million increase in receipts from livestock. Estimates of expenses are $143 million, leaving anticipated net income at $34 million, after an adjustment to inventory by $7 million.

P.E.I.
Agriculture

1986 Annual Report

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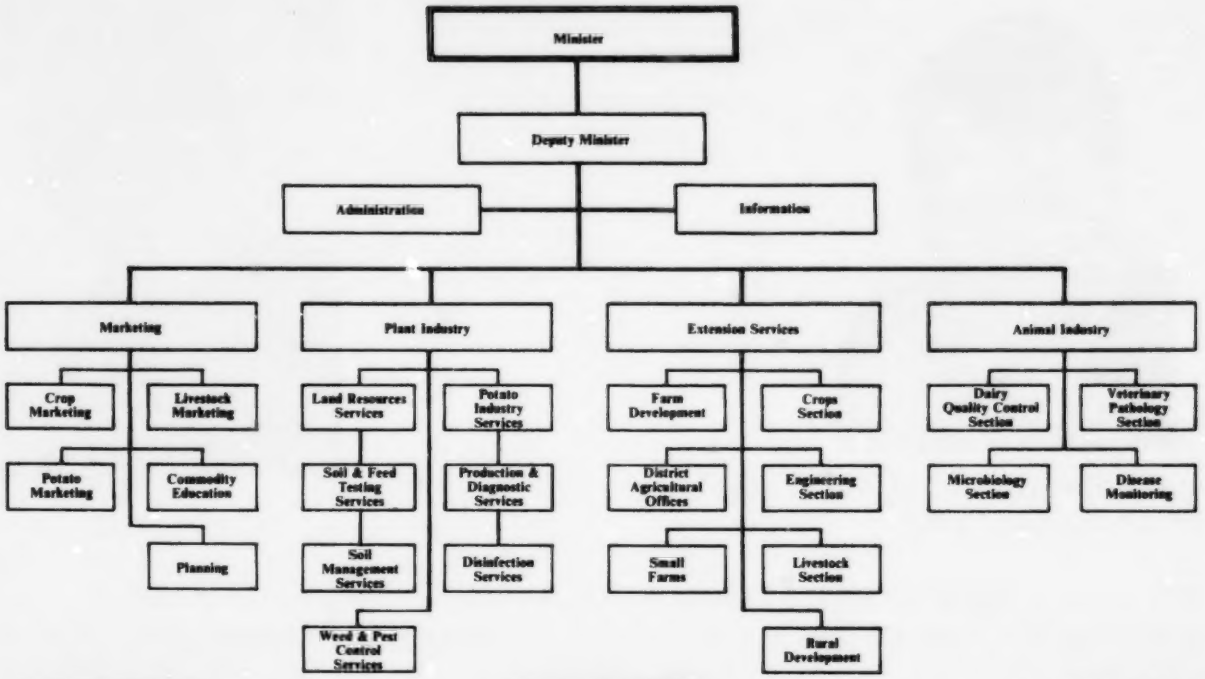

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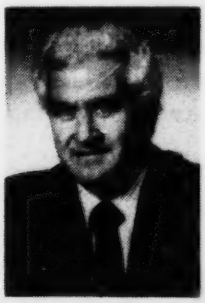

Allan Hogan
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Plant Industry Services

Lynne A. Rodgerson
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Information

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture
Charlottetown, 1987

TO THE HONOURABLE LLOYD G. MacPHAIL
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Sir:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture comprised of financial statements for the period April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1986 and activities for the calendar year, 1986.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Tim Carroll
Minister of Agriculture

To the Honourable Tim Carroll
Minister of Agriculture
Sir:

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Department of Agriculture for the 1986 calendar year, and the financial report for the fiscal year 1985-86.

During 1986, your staff has worked diligently in assisting the agricultural industry develop its opportunities as farmers wished, as well as deal with any constraints facing various commodities.

Programs in rural development; assistance to farm groups; farm family training; and emphasis on farm financial management have all served to help the farm sector develop. From demonstrating new production technology to establishing the Food Technology Centre, the department has stretched to meet the agricultural industry's needs.

Staff have also worked effectively with Agriculture Canada on projects such as potato deversion, tri-partite stabilization, agricultural trade negotiations, grains assistance program, and plant disease control, as well as the five-year ERDA program.

I would like to thank farm families and farm organizations for their continued co-operation in working toward the betterment of the agricultural industry. You will find details of our programs and activities in the report of each branch.

Respectfully Submitted

Dale Dewar
Deputy Minister

Animal Industry Services Branch

The Animal Industry Services Branch is responsible for the health related productivity of P.E.I. livestock. The Branch provides diagnostic, advisory and technical services to livestock producers.

The Branch is responsible for administering Livestock Health Programs and Meat Inspection Services within the province at local abbatoirs excluding Garden Province Meats.

The Branch is responsible for Dairy Quality Control and milk analysis for payment purposes. Grants were administered to the P.E.I. Humane Society and the Artificial Breeders Association of Prince Edward Island.

The Animal Industry Services Branch supports the Department of Agriculture's overall objective of improving net farm incomes of livestock producers by providing programs.

a) Directed at improving the quality and productivity of Island Livestock and livestock products, and

b) Directed at reducing the unit cost of production of livestock products through disease control and health management services.

Health Management Programs Continue Expansion and Uptake.

The economically important diseases of livestock are now those which are linked with the farm management system as opposed to any specific identifiable disease per se. Although it is not always possible to specifically separate the effects of one from the other, the adoption of a health management approach to the delivery of veterinary services to the livestock industries is the most effective way of dealing with all disease losses.

During the past year livestock producers in this province received 6957 individual service calls of a health management nature to all species of livestock. This was a six per cent increase over the previous year's statistics and documents a continuing uptake of health management programs.

The other major component of livestock health services which the Department of Agriculture cost-shares with livestock producers is the clinical component which includes service calls to individual sick animals. Twenty veterinarians working out of five seperate locations across Prince Edward Island responded to 14,721 individual farm calls. The continuing trend toward preventative or health management programs is producing a reduction in the losses experienced by livestock producers as evidenced by the reducing number of service calls of an emergency or clinical nature.

The Meat Inspection Program was delivered province wide to 20 local slaughterhouse operations. In the past year 8,513 cattle, 3,276 hogs and 1,074 sheep and lambs were inspected and certified as being safe and wholesome for human consumption. All carried the P.E.I. Approved Legend. The Meat Inspection Program is a cooperative effort with the Provincial Department of Health and continues to ensure householders of P.E.I. a quality product and the livestock producers of this province options for the marketing of their produce.

Improving the Health of Island Hogs

One objective of the Animal Industry Branch has been to maximize levels of the health, in Island swine herds. With the emphasis on health there has been improvement not only in the quality of hogs marketed but also in the quality of the final product.

The Minimal Disease Program continues to expand and involve more producers. It is a three tier system with Island farrowing operations purchasing breeding stock from the Multiplier Breeders who purchase their breeding replacements from the Central Unit at Grandhill, P.E.I. Currently eight operations are certified as Multiplier Breeders and two others are undergoing the certification process.

As a result of a newly formed organization, the P.E.I. Quality Swine Breeders Association working in conjuction with our Department; more emphasis is being placed on the promotion of swine health management and the marketing of minimal disease swine than ever before. The marketing program is to promote not only Island wide sales but also to develop off Island markets.

Certification for the Multiplier Breeders and Central Unit is an ongoing process. A Department veterinarian visits each operation involved in the Minimal Disease Program monthly to verify that the health and management requirements necessary for continued certification are maintained.

Our swine fieldman provides monthly slaughter checks on marketed hogs at Garden Province Meats. This source is utilized by the Minimal Disease Breeders who are required to submit a specified number of hogs for slaughter checks for certification requirements.

An increased demand for slaughter checks in 1986 has occurred. Minimal disease herds, multiplier breeders, Island veterinarians and conventional swine producers utilize the slaughter check data as it provides an accurate picture of the

present health levels in the herd.

These checks are conducted at Garden Province Meats on marketed hogs. Accurate information is collected on levels of Enzootic Pneumonia, Atrophic Rhinitis and internal parasites. This information is then utilized by the producer and the veterinarian in a health management program of preventive medicine.

Producer education on swine health continues to expand. A Branch veterinarian interacting with Livestock Section personnel of the Extension Services Branch have provided several seminars for the swine industry. These programs have been well attended by our Island swine farmers and all have been a success.

When the health improves, the economic costs of swine production decrease and a better quality product is produced. Minimal disease swine, Health Management Programs and slaughter checks are in constant demand.

Animal Pathology and Microbiology Transferred to Atlantic Veterinary College

On April 1, 1986 the complete staff and function of both the Animal Pathology and Microbiology component that related to Animal Pathology was transferred to the Atlantic Veterinary College. The Government of Prince Edward Island continued to provide these services of diagnostic pathology and microbiology to livestock producers of Prince Edward Island through a contractual arrangement with the Atlantic Veterinary College. Although administration responsibilities for these services changed during the past year, the services were provided from the Pathology and Microbiology Laboratories that were housed on the Federal Research Station in Charlottetown.

The total number of submissions for analysis was 6,354, a slight increase of 245 submissions over the previous year. The majority of these submissions were animals for post mortems as evidenced by the following chart.

Veterinary Pathology Laboratory
Number of Submissions
January 1, 1986 - December 31, 1986

Postmortem	1,564
Blood	2,520
Urine	374
Parasitology	719
Bacteriology	587
Histology	385
Fluid/Cytology	111
Pregnancy Test	70
Toxicology	24
	6,354

Dairy Quality Control Section

During 1986, five new programs were introduced by the Dairy Quality Control Section.

Universal Milk Sampling Program - this is a program whereby an asceptic and representative sample of milk is acquired from each producer's bulk tank at pickup time. Because the sample is obtained by the truck driver in an asceptic manner, it also affords the lab staff with a better work load scheduling and removes the element of predictability with regards to bacterial sampling. Approximately 10,000 samples per month are received by the lab.

Antibiotic Analysis - with the onset of universal sampling, an ability to monitor all shipments of milk was acquired. All bulk truck loads of raw milk are examined for the presence of Antibiotic residues. When truck loads are found to be positive, individual producer samples are analyzed to determine the offender (s).

Iodine Analysis - commencing in October, 1986, processed milks are being analyzed for the presence of iodine residues.

Somatic Cell Count - upon the acquisition of new analytical equipment, the Dairy Lab is able to enumerate Somatic Cells in preserved or non-preserved milk samples. This service permits Somatic Cell analysis on cows enrolled in the DHAS program on a monthly basis. Through an interfacing of two instruments, three analyses can be simultaneously obtained; butterfat content, protein content and Somatic Cell content. The combination of the two particular instruments being used is the first such combination in Canada.

Keeping Quality Analysis - in January 1986, a shelf life and keeping quality analysis program was begun for fluid milks. A Mosley keeping quality analysis is done twice monthly on Homo, 2 per cent, and skim milk from each fluid plant. This analysis determines shelf life of these products, and primarily shows post-pasteurization contamination.

During 1986 Dairy farm inspections continued, and in early 1986, all milk producers in the province had received an initial inspection of their premises. The inspection reflects the condition of the facilities in place as well as the sanitary conditions of all areas related to quality milk production; the conditions being reflected by numerical scores with the result being a weighted average score for the individual farm. Although this method of inspection may appear to be quite critical of a producer's facility, it is supported by regulation and complements the enforcement of the minimum provisions of the regulations. All milk producers in the province, through provisions of the Milk Act, may be inspected as often as deemed necessary by the Department. Generally speaking, a program of reasonable but intensive farm inspection has been well received and supported by the industry.

Milk Production and Utilization - Total milk shipments for the calendar year, 1986, were approximately 100.3 million litres, an increase of approximately 5.5 per cent over

a similar period last year. Production of 100.3 million litres is the pure figure of producer shipments to plants. Of this 100.3 litres, 14.05 million litres is considered as Fluid sales (Class I producer's production sold as Fluid milk in the province). This does not include Fluid milk surplus to the Class I market sold as Industrial milk; this figure is included in the total Industrial milk production. A total of 79.04 million litres is considered as Industrial milk shipments, and 7.2 million litres is considered as cream shipments (in milk equivalents).

In P.E.I. there are 784 milk producers, a decrease of 5.7 per cent from 1985; of the 784 producers, 170 are Class I producers (Fluid); 402 are Industrial producers, and 212 are cream producers.

Creamery butter production (January - November, 1986) was 1.2 million kilograms, an increase of 36 per cent from the previous year. Weight certificates were issued for 106.7 thousand kilograms of butter and 710.3 thousand kilograms of skim milk powder during 1986. Total cheddar cheese production is manufactured at Amalgamated Dairies Ltd. Cheddar cheese production decreased approximately four per cent over the same period in 1985. Total litres of Ice Cream Mix manufactured amounted to 2.7 million litres, an increase of approximately one per cent over January - November 1985. Two plants did not report Ice Cream Mix statistics. Whey butter production amounted to 76.5 thousand kilograms, a 14 per cent decrease over 1985.

During 1986, 12 manufacturing plant licenses were issued to five creameries, two industrial plants and five fluid milk plants that also process manufactured milk products. There are two fluid plants which process only Class I milk.

Provincial Dairy Section staff, in cooperation with Agriculture Canada Dairy Division officials conducted In-Depth Plant Inspections on all milk and cream processing plants in P.E.I. As well, followup inspections were conducted on four plants who failed to meet a 77.4 per cent score on the initial inspection.

During 1986, eight persons from P.E.I. engaged in Bulk Milk transportation successfully completed a Bulk Tank Grader's Course and were subsequently issued a license permitting them to pickup and transport bulk milk in the province.

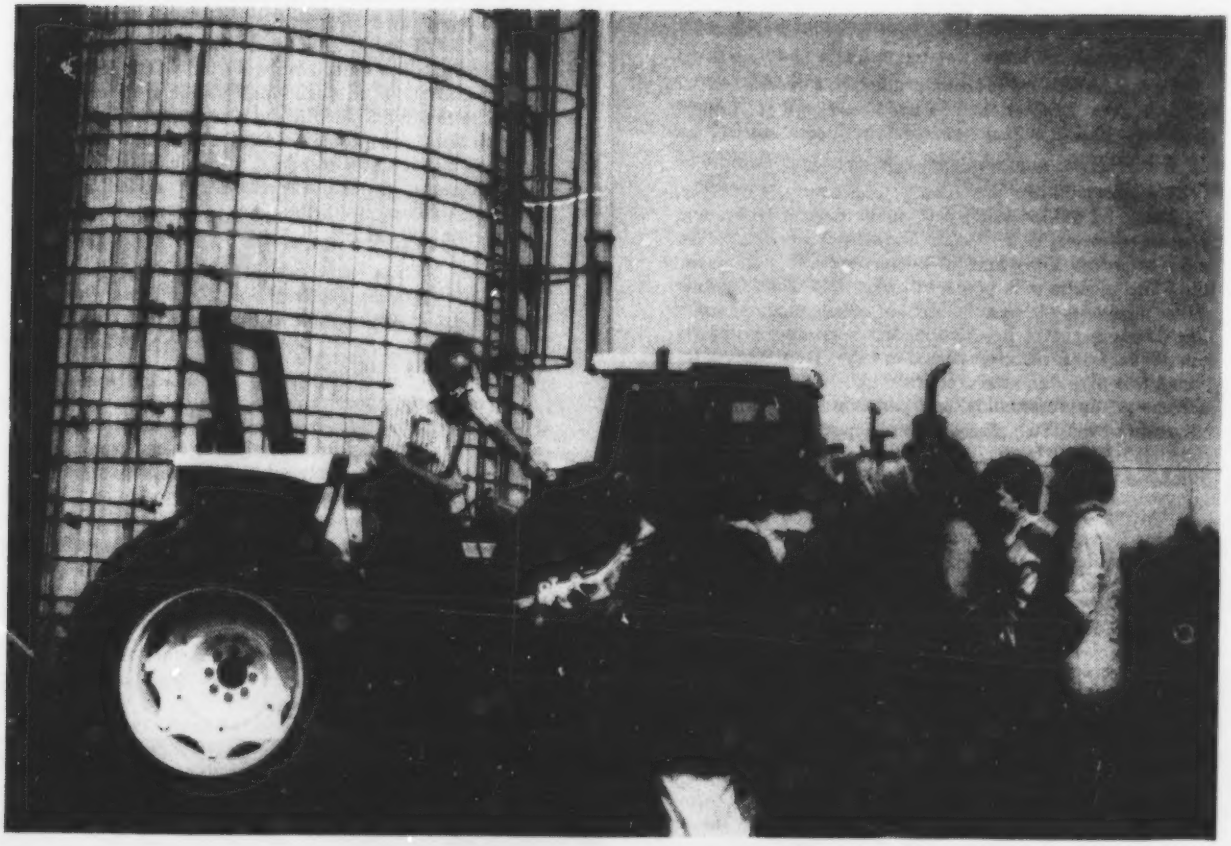
A Plate Loop Count is performed on all Industrial Class I producers on a bi-monthly basis in accordance with the Milk Act Regulations. Those producers who exceed the regulations on the initial analyses are rechecked before the end of the pay period.

During the period January - December 1986, 15,689 producer samples were analyzed for bacterial numbers. Approximately 1.35 per cent of Industrial and 0.77 per cent of Class I producers exceeded the regulated maximum allowable bacterial count of 300,000/ml and 100,000/ml respectively. Approximately 69.8 per cent of Industrial producer's samples had bacteria counts less than 30,000/ml, while 80 per cent of Class I producers samples were less than 30,000/ml.

During 1986 the Dairy Lab analyzed 3627 producer samples and 7420 bulk tank truck samples for the presence of antibiotic residues; 1.9 per cent of producer samples were confirmed to contain antibiotic residues and 0.5 per cent of the loads were also confirmed to contain antibiotic residues. Fourteen bulk tanks of raw milk were placed under detention for suspected antibiotic contamination, while two tanks of milk were ordered not to be sold or offered for sale due to confirmed presence of antibiotic residues. The modified I.D.F. method is used to determine the presence of antibiotic residues; detectability of 0.025 I.U. is possible with this method. All bulk truck loads of milk are also analyzed for the presence of added water. This analysis, based on the freezing point determination of raw milk, will indicate the presence and amount of added water in milk. When load samples show a positive presence of added water, all producers making up the load are tested then to determine the offender (s).

Dairy Section Inspection Staff visit all producers who exceed the regulated bacterial limits, and those who have a positive antibiotic or adulteration test result. As soon as these results are known; producers receive confirmation of the analysis by mail.

The Dairy Laboratory analyzes all Industrial and Class I producer's butterfat samples for payment basis. This analysis is conducted on a fresh sample each week .During 1986, the Dairy Lab analyzed 26,785 samples for payment, 47,274 samples were analyzed for butterfat and protein content, 38,099 samples were analyzed for Somatic Cell content, 64 butter samples were obtained for yeast and mold analysis, 924 cream samples were check tested for accuracy, and 3425 cans of cream were graded at P.E.I. Creameries.



Extension Services Branch

The Extension Services Branch contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island by:

1. *providing technical information and skills training in farm production and management;*
2. *providing management programs and services and individual farm and home management counselling to farm families to assist them in making the best use of finances and other resources to improve their net income and the productivity and efficiency of their farm operations;*
3. *assisting youth and farm organizations to increase the effectiveness of their programs and the leadership skills of their executive and members; and*
4. *implementing agricultural assistance programs and policies to encourage the development and the use of quality livestock and cropping programs.*

The Extension Services Branch consists of a team effort between specialized extension resource groups, (i.e., Crops, Engineering, Livestock, Rural Development, Small Farms and the District Agricultural Offices in West Prince, Summerside, Souris, Charlottetown and Montague.)

Program Direction

In 1986, Farm Financial Management programs continued to be a priority. This series of training activities included courses based on cost of production studies, by commodity, followed by individual counselling. This emphasis on costs, returns and financial management involved both the district management and specialist extension staff in a combined effort to focus all extension programs on the financial management of each commodity. In 1986, as well, staff were involved with the Provincial Farm Debt Review Board and an increased level of activity in cost of production studies on a variety of commodities.

Livestock, crops and engineering programs continue to reflect an emphasis on the productivity of the farm unit. Many staff were involved in counselling, providing information and assisting individuals and groups with projects relating to ERDA programs, particularly the Productivity Enhancement Program, and the Soil and Water Conservation Program.

Staff were involved in the implementation of the Swine Incentive Policy and Cow-Calf Incentive Programs in 1986. Work continued in emphasizing the management and productivity aspects of the programs to farmers enrolled.

Many staff were involved in the analysis and discussions leading up to an agreement on the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative. This agreement is expected to be signed in early 1987 and will provide incentives to encourage improved management and productivity of livestock feed production in the four Atlantic Provinces.

Staff at the district and provincial levels continued to work closely with farm and related organizations. Included are the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, 4-H Clubs and Councils, Breed and Commodity Associations, Marketing Boards, Junior Farmers', Women in Support of Agriculture, Womens' Institutes, Community Schools, fairs and exhibitions, Cattlemen's Association, etc.

Staff of the Crops, Livestock, Engineering and Rural Development Sections continue to be involved on a regional basis with Atlantic Provinces' committees to identify research needs and to coordinate, where possible, extension activities, programs and staff training opportunities. Many of the publications in farm management, crop and livestock production and engineering are issued on an Atlantic provinces basis, thus lowering the costs to individual provinces and improving the quality of information through close contacts with research officers in the region. Participation by staff in the work of National Committees such as the Canada Farm Building Plans Service, R.O.P. for Beef, Swine, Sheep, SeCan, and Canadian Seed Growers Association, is also an important part of on-going work.

Crops Section

Staff of the Crops Section continued to provide farm operators in Prince Edward Island with the latest information and services. Some highlights of 1986 include:

- continuation of work on season extension techniques for vegetable producers;
- increased interest and activity regarding diversification into crops such as primrose, grapes, soybeans, small fruits & vegetables;
- development of projects in co-operation with Agriculture Canada's Productivity Enhancement and Technology Development Programs;
- discussion of information and policies related to the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative;
- continued emphasis on both cereals (Intensive Cereal Management) and quality forage (particularly alfalfa and silage);
- most staff time is devoted to delivering technical information to individual farmers or a commodity association in support of crop production in Prince Edward Island. In addition, during the growing season

a weekly crop report is issued to the media and various news interviews conducted on general crop conditions.

Cereals

The highest average yields in many years were recorded for all classes of cereal grains on P.E.I. this past season.

Winter wheat survival was poor across most of the province during the 1986 winter, except in the south eastern section of the province. Some winter wheat yielded well, but the yields were very low in the fields encountering winter kill.

Spring cereal seeding began early in 1986. Good weather during the last of April and early May enabled most producers to get a percentage of early seeding completed. The early start was followed in late May by cool, dark, damp weather, which caused tillering, as well as weak straw growth. July was reasonably dry and fungal disease pressure was normal. Cereal yields were high, with many growers obtaining two tonnes per acre, with a good protein level. Much of the tall, thick growth of barley lodged during heavy rains the last of July. The yield was good, except the kernel size was smaller due to the lodging. Many growers obtained two tonnes of barley per acre, with good protein levels. Oats and mixed grain crops also yielded well.

Cereal acreage increased by 5,000 acres in 1986, with a dramatic switch from mixed grains to the higher yielding and higher quality species barley. Mixed grain acreage dropped by 4,000 acres, while oats increased by 2,000 acres. Barley acreage increased by 6,000 acres. Wheat acreage increased by 1,000 acres.

Extension Activities

Extension activities centered around individual farm client consultations, technical and administrative support to Soil & Crop Improvement Association activities, Maritime Branch of C.S.G.A, and the Advisory Committee of Cereals and Protein Crops for the Atlantic Provinces Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee.

Quality Seed Program

The Quality Seed Policy was continued, with 430 applications received to the end of December, 1986.

Soybeans

Increased interest in soybeans was evident for 1986, as acreage increased to more than 6,000 acres, with yields dramatically lower than 1985.

During 1986, the lowest accumulated heat units for many years were recorded. Consequently, this delayed the development and the yields of this crop. The late maturing varieties were not harvested until November. The acreage planted early with recommended varieties had an average yield.

Forages

Hay - The 1986 season saw tame hay acreages remain relatively stable at 50,400 ha. Hay yields for 1986 were down across the Island. Prince and Queens counties had the greatest yield decreases, while Kings county was less affected. Depressed yields were associated with a drier than normal spring. The remainder of the year was quite cool and damp. This resulted in a considerable delay in the hay harvest, and thus a lower quality product.

There is a continued active interest from producers in growing alfalfa. Although there are no statistics as to exact alfalfa acreages, farm visits and general producer inquiries indicate that alfalfa acreages are on the increase. There is also increasing interest in conserving the forage crop as silage. This is particularly evident in 1986, considering that it was a difficult year to put up good quality hay. Round bale silage in large plastic bags was particularly popular this year.

Pastures - The 1986 season saw pasture acreages down somewhat, to 36,400 Ha. (91,000 Ac) from 1985 (38,000 Ha.) Pasture yields followed a trend similar to hay. Early season growth was generally less than normal due to dry conditions. This was particularly evident with unfertilized pastures.

There continues to be numerous inquiries about new pasture seed mixtures. Producers are becoming more interested in seeding highly productive, tame forage species. Forage brassicas (kale in particular) were very popular this year with many Island beef producers.

Extension Activities

Activities were largely concerned with answering producer inquiries on general forage crop management. Forage work was closely coordinated with the District Agricultural Offices and the provincial and district Soil & Crop Improvement Associations. Numerous forage demonstrations, tours and courses were undertaken in 1986.

Cereal & Forage Crop Production - 1985-86

	Acreage		Yield bu/ac	
	1985	1986	1985	1986
Winter Wheat	2,500	3,000	48.	52
Spring Wheat	6,500	7,000	48.	52
Total Wheat	9,000	10,000		
Oats	28,000	30,000	62.	67
Barley	59,000	65,000	55.	60
Mixed Grain	79,000	75,000	60.5	66
Hay	124,000	126,000	2.15	
Corn	4,000	3,500	12.50	

Soil and Crop Improvement Association

The P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Association is a producer-operated organization whose prime role is to improve the soil while increasing crop yields with the ultimate goal being higher net incomes to farmers. The Crops Section works closely with the association. Demonstration and trial projects on members' farms have taken place in five agricultural districts across the province. Testing of cereal, forage, and protein crops using the newest varieties available constituted a major part of soil and crop activities.

The Soil & Crop Improvement Association in co-operation with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture conducted a successful Crop Seminar entitled Profitable Farming . . . 1986 & Beyond. This was a farmer's conference, organized and conducted by farmers, in co-operation with Department of Agriculture staff. The topics dealt with the real issues facing farmers today, such as "The crisis in agriculture - how should it be handled?" as well as topics on marketing agricultural products and high tech crop production.

A Productivity Enhancement Project on Integrated Cereal Management was conducted on winter cereals, spring wheat and barley. The association provided technical advice, fungicides, and growth regulators to the co-operating producers, as well as taking yield tests at harvest to demonstrate the benefits of this new management system.

A provincial farmers' tour was conducted in early August to view a cross section of Soil & Crop work, as well as view farms employing new technology. This tour was attended by over 145 farmers. A Productivity Enhancement Program Project on Alfalfa Management is underway. This three-year project will evaluate the productivity and economics of a two-cut management system per year, to a three-cut management system per year. The establishment of the alfalfa crop will be evaluated by underseeding alfalfa with cereals and by direct seeding.

Yields and quality competitions were held for hay, silage, cereal grains, protein crops, and potatoes. The S.C.I.A. had a display of the winning hay entries at the Charlottetown Exhibition, along with a cereal crop display on Intergrated Cereal Management.

SeCan Association

SeCan Association is a unique partnership of seed growers, seed firms and government departments dedicated to production and marketing new varieties of crops developed in Canada. This department has a representative on the Board of Directors who attended their annual meeting in 1986. Some of the varieties recommended in the Atlantic region distributed through SeCan are Milton and Vernon spring wheat; Bruce, Leger and Micmac barley; Shaw and Sentinel oats; and Valor and Borden winter wheat

Canadian Seed Grower's Association

The Department of Agriculture is represented on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Seed Grower's Association and the representative attended their annual meeting in Ottawa, and their Directors' meeting in Ottawa, to discuss the latest issues in the seed grain industry.

Berry Crops and Honey Bees

Extension activities include technical assistance to individual growers, commodity newsletters, co-operation on various federal ERDA programs (Productivity Enhancement, Crop & Livestock Health, and Technology Development), and support to commodity associations. An advisory service for fruit growers was initiated in which crop scouts visited fields regularly (once or twice a week) throughout the growing season.

Honeybees

Honey yields were estimated at: 80lbs. per colony (down from the 10-year provincial average of 100lbs.).

Total colonies - 900

Number of Beekeepers - 120

The number of active beekeepers has decreased but colony numbers are holding steady, with an increased emphasis on overwintering.

Two hundred and forty-eight packages, and 135 queens were purchased from New Zealand. A local beekeeper is producing queens for sale.

P.E.I. Beekeepers' Co-op Association

The annual meeting featured a discussion on queen production and overwintering methods. The association organized the package bee order for its members, and bulk purchases of honey containers. An "Extracting Workshop" was held in August to promote the proper methods of processing and packaging honey. The Co-Op make available to its members and indoor overwintering facility and special trailers for moving hives.

Bee Development Program

This program, funded by a grant from the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture to the P.E.I. Beekeepers' Co-operative Association, is designed to identify and erradicate disease of honeybees in the province. A committee composed of association directors and Crops Section staff administered the 1986 inspection program. Additional assistance has been received from Agriculture Canada's Livestock Health Program. A drug subsidy program is available to association members.

Colonies were also surveyed for the presence of the tracheal mite and nosema. A self-sampling kit was developed for beekeepers. Considerable effort was devoted

to developing a computerized mailing/inspection list and entering current data into the system.

Approximately 694 colonies were inspected by the chief inspector and one part-time inspector. An additional part-time technician carried out the laboratory and computer procedures.

Strawberries

Acreage holding steady at 400 (fruiting) marketed as follows:

Fresh - 65% Pick-Your-Own -30% Processing - 5%

Potential yields and returns were generally higher than 1985, although poor weather conditions contributed to more harvest losses from fruit rot.

Strawberry Growers' Association

The association has approximately 20 members and is active in producer education and promotion. The annual meeting featured the marketing consultant with the North American Strawberry Growers' Association. A field-day and farm tour was held in June. The group is an associate member of the P.E.I. Horticultural Association.

Certified Strawberry Nursery Program

Federal and provincial staff provided and inspection and certification service for locally grown planting stock. Two nurseries received certification in 1986.

Other Extension Programs

— Three newsletters were distributed to growers;

— soil samples were taken to assist an Agriculture Canada survey to identify strains of the Red Stele disease;

— co-operated with Plant Industry Branch on various weed, pest and disease problems (nematodes, root rot, Verticillium wilt, perennial "problem" weeds, such as field pansy, and

— 3 growers signed up for the Crop Scouting Program.

Raspberries:

New plantings are going in each year. Fruiting acreage is approximately 25.

Marketable yields were depressed in 1986, due to wet weather but prices were good.

Raspberry Growers' Association

Association membership is approximately 12. 1986 is the second year of operation for this group. Activities included an annual meeting, a field trip to Michaud Experimental Farm, N.B., and an August promotional "Festival."

Other Extension Activities

Two raspberry growers were on the Crop Scouting Program, and newsletters were prepared and sent out.

Blueberries

The 1986 crop is estimated at 500,000 lbs. (lower than average due to a poor growing season). The price to growers for processing berries was up significantly from '85, renewing interest in this commodity.

Blueberry Growers' Association

The Association has approximately 30 members and has been involved with various ERDA projects. The association initiated a scholarship and baking contest with the P.E.I. Culinary Institute. Assistance for this project was also received from the Wild Blueberry Association of North America. A stump grinder (PTO driven) is available to members. The annual meeting in November centered around ways and means of increasing member participation in association activities and reaffirmed the value of having an association.

Other Extension Activities

— Two blueberry growers participated in the Crop Scouting Program;

— four newsletters were distributed;

— P.E.I. hosted the Wild Blueberry Workers' Conference, which involved 20 researchers, extension people and growers from Canada and the United States;

— co-operated with Small Farm Program resource worker with blueberry growers in West Prince area (i.e., bird control, monitoring for maggot fly); and

— involved with a number of federally-funded projects by individuals and grower groups:
  a) Flail mowing as a pruning method
  b) Bird depredation
  c) Land levelling
  d) Mechanical harvester
  e) Sulphur for pH adjustment and grass control
  f) Affect of Gypsum on Calcium levels and berry yields

Other Fruit Crops

Crops Section staff were involved with special efforts by the Small Farm Program with orchard crops and cranberries (wild and cultivated).

A grape research project continues under the direction of the Technology Development Program (Agriculture Canada).

Greenhouse

The Island's greenhouse sector continues to expand with an approximate 20 per cent increase in bedding plant direct sales. Greenhouse vegetable producers as well have

expanded to effectively double the area under protected environment, meeting increased market demand for tomatoes, mainly with marginal increased production of English seedless cucumbers.

Extension Activities

Technical assistance and administration support to the P.E.I. Greenhouse Grower's Association and its individual members encouraging active participation in their industry through:

1) attendance at the 1986 Canadian Greenhouse Conference;
2) 1986 annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Greenhouse Growers' Association;
3) toured the New Brunswick Horticultural Research Station (host) to review the latest information on varieties and production methods;
4) tour major greenhouse producers in Saint John River Valley;
5) technical, promotional and administrative support through use of provincial and out-of-province specialists on marketing and production of greenhouse crops; and
6) mailed five newsletters highlighting technical aspects of greenhouse crop production.

Vegetables

The unusually cool summer of 1986 was not a particularly good year for the production of warm season crops such as corn or tomatoes. Cole crops and root crops, however, did exceptionally well.

Spring crop development was slow as a result of a cold, dry May. The remainder of the season was cool and dull, with rainfall accumulation reaching normal levels by mid-August. Wet fall weather resulted in delays in harvest activities.

Alternate crop development for horticultural and tobacco producers included grapes (second year), primrose, white beans, great northern beans, leek (demonstration plot).

Extension activities

- Vegetable Newsletters;
- organized producers' two and one-half day tour to Annapolis Valley; tour vegetable operations in Kentville;
- worked in co-operation with the P.E.I. Horticultural Association Inc. in the operation of Integrated Pest Management Program for vegetables and tender fruit producers; and
- assisted the P.E.I. Horticultural Association in three Agriculture Canada funded projects:

1. Fruit & Vegetable Production Demonstration Project (second year)
2. Horticultural Crop Disease Management Project (first year)
3. Horticultural Crop Cultivar Evaluation (first year)

- Organized a 1-day tour for visiting New England vegetable specialists
- Assisted Small Farms Program in training program for Master Gardener Program
- Lectures and short courses - home garden, commercial vegetable production

Prince Edward Island Vegetable Acreages for 1986

	1986	Hectare
Beans	20	8
Beets	10	4
Brussels sprouts	100	40
Broccoli	50	20
Cabbage	225	91
Carrots	200	81
Cauliflower	40	16
Corn	75	30
Cucumbers	50	20
Lettuce	35	14
Onions	0	0
Parsnips	25	10
Rutabagas	500	202
Squash	6	2
Tomatoes	6	2

Tobacco

The 1986 yield of tobacco was well below the five-year average due to a combination of spring and fall frosts, wind damage, and excessively cool climatic conditions throughout the growing season. Several disease problems, noticeably Scleratonia and Rhizotonia, caused isolated but severe crop losses.

Extension Activities

- follow-up with producers involved in the Financial Management Workshop for tobacco producers;
- curing seminar highlighting energy savings and quality, was held in co-operation with the P.E.I. Tobacco Commodity Marketing Board and Agriculture Canada;
- Tobacco Competition;
- Annual Tobacco Field-Day; and

— organizing the annual Tobacco Sales Day.

As well, activities focused on continuing efforts to evaluate options open to tobacco producers wanting to diversify. Activities considered on-going include extensive in-field consultation in all facets of tobacco production, several newsletters, as well as administrative and technical support to the association.

Tobacco Production - 1984-1986

	1984	1985	1986
No. of farms	81	78	72
No. of acres	4300	3722.6	3694.8
Total pounds	8,869,922	5,889,100	5,692,000 (est)
Yield/acre	2045	1582	1540 (est)
Total value	14,896,844	10,400,151	10,430,477 (est)
Final	1.679	1.766	1.832

Charlottetown District Office

The Charlottetown District Office provides services to individual farm families and rural organizations in their continued effort to improve efficiency on the farm and promote community development. Staff act as information sources and advisors on many aspects of farm and home management.

The year 1986 has been a better year economically for most farm families with higher farm receipts for potatoes, pork and beef. A good grain crop was harvested but the market prices received were depressed. It was a poor year for harvesting hay and many farmers tried round bale silage for the first time.

The District Office worked with many rural organizations to plan and implement a wide range of courses, information/workshop sessions, tours and the demonstrations that were designed to meet their identified needs.

Five courses were held for 117 people on a range of topics from alfalfa production to financial management and paperwork on the farm.

Thirteen other workshops/information sessions were held for a total of 478 people. These included estate planning, swine and dairy herd health, tax planning, soybean feeding and round bale silage making.

A major demonstration was conducted with the District Soil and Crop Improvement Association on round bale silage making. Well over 150 farmers attended. Charlottetown machinery dealers are to be congratulated for their participation in this event.

Charlottetown District Office Statistics 1986

Courses

Alfalfa Production (1 Day)	30
Dairy Financial Management	5
Paperwork On The Farm (2 Locations)	8 x 2 Day 18 x 3 Evenings
Dairy Home Study Course	6
Step By Step Money Management	50

Workshops/Information Sessions

Estate Planning & Wills	33
Swine Herd Health Evening	80
Sow Productivity	45
Production Management for Retail Forage & Cereal Dealers	15
Dairy Herd Health	55
Health Management Update	40
Maximizing Benefits of Somatic Cell Count	30
D.H.A.S. Seminar	40
Tax Planning	12
Round Bale Silage Making	70
Soybean Feeding Workshop	12
4-H Executive Training	46
Safety Workshop for Farm Women	15

Tours

— Fifteen dairy farmers to Fredericton, N.B. to view bull unit and visit several farms;

— two dairy tours arranged for 50 Atlantic Vet College students; and

— pasture tour in cooperation with Cattlemen's Association for 12 District Farmers.

Farm Management

Farm Management has always been a high priority in the extension programs of the Charlottetown District Office. Many of the courses, information sessions and tours conducted dealt with farm management topics. Individual farm families are directly assisted in the preparation of farm financial plans and credit proposals as requested.

Much of this work is facilitated by the district staff's use of computer software which assists in the preparation of financial statements such as balance sheets and cash flow budgets.

Assistance has been given to improve record keeping systems so that they can be monitored more accurately

throughout the year. Some farmers with computers were assisted in the use of their machines and software programs.

Advice was also given in the areas of estate planning, tax management and budgeting.

Farm management staff examined the financial records of five farm organizations and prepared financial statements for their annual meetings.

Articles were prepared for publication in CornerPost as factsheets and for the local press on farm management topics.

Advice was given to farm families who wished to restructure their debt and make use of the interim Provincial Debt Review Board. Staff acted as first contact for the Federal Rural Transition Program.

Crop and Livestock Production

Information and advice was provided in all areas of crop and livestock production. Particular emphasis was given to forages, cereals, dairy and hog production. Since our offices are located in the same building as the livestock, engineering and crops section, frequent use is made of specialists as resource persons in response to farmer inquiries.

As well, advice is sought on behalf of farmers or other resource persons in the Agriculture Canada Research Branch and the Plant and Animal Industry Branches.

Assistance was provided to monitor district soil and crop plots. Samples were taken, analyzed and weighed and a summary report prepared for members.

District Staff aided in monitoring aphid traps as part of the Aphid Alert Program.

Assistance was provided in weighing cattle, weighing grain, measuring fields for yield determinations.

Advice was also given on how to interpret feed and soil analysis reports, entering hay and silage competitions, making use of the Pedigreed Seed Policy and the Lime Subsidy Program.

Associations & Commodity Groups

District Staff participated in meeting with various commodity groups and associations, as follows: Charlottetown District Soil & Crop Improvement Association, Provincial Soil & Crop Association, Charlottetown District Federation of Agriculture, P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, Charlottetown District Dairy Producers' Association, Charlottetown District A.I. Breeders, Holstein Breeders, Aryshire Breeders, Queens' County National Farmers Union, Women's Institutes, Women In Support of Agriculture, Junior Farmers, Provincial 4-H Council and District 4 - H Clubs. The participation ranged from attending meetings as an observer to participating in policy sessions and planning groups.

Exhibitions

District staff assisted with the officiating at the following exhibitions. Duties included judging foods and crafts, 4-H exhibits and clerking livestock:

— Provincial Exhibition (Old Home Week)
— Crapaud Exhibition
— Dundas (Judging 4-H Livestock)
— Souris (Judging Food and Crafts)
— Maritime Winter Fair
— National Holstein Show (St. Marie de Kent, N.B.)

Program Interpretations and Other Advice

Many inquiries are handled on Provincial and Federal programs and advice is given on how these various programs apply to farm families. These areas include: Fuel Tax Rebates, Feed Freight Assistance, Hog Incentive Programs, Quota Exchange, Soil Conservation and Land Drainage, Productivity Enhancement Proposals and others.

The Agricultural Resource Workers who work for the Small Farms Program provide a needed link to many farmers. The District Staff co-ordinate their efforts with them and compliment their extension efforts.

Home Economics

District Staff answered about 1300 consumer requests and conducted many courses and information programs in 1986. Product promotion is also a large part of the duties of our home economist and many provincial programs were developed.

More than 1500 people took part in the five courses/workshops offered in such areas as: Kitchen Magic and "You Pick" (food demonstrations), Wills and Estate Planning, Leadership Development, and the home study course on Money Management.

— Fifty-seven individuals took part in five different time management presentations;

— dairy products were highlighted as part of the solution to osteoporosis, to 197 participants in 14 different presentations of the "Calcium Calculator";

— eight other presentations were made to about 330 people on such areas as Sensible Dieting "Abby Plan," Dairy Product Promotion, Pork Pourri, Managing Meals for Today's Lifestyles, Home Budgeting Consumer Awareness, and Gift Giving Ideas for Island Agricultural Products.

Besides attending many planning meetings and conferences, the home economics staff did extensive media work for newspapers, CornerPost, other publications and radio. Assistance was given to the 4-H Clubs and provincial co-ordination was provided for a number of food demonstration programs.

A major program on family communications about money was developed for use in 1987.

4-H Youth Development

Our 4-H membership grew by almost seven per cent over 1985 with 14 clubs being reorganized in the fall of 1986;

The Mermaid-Mount Herbert Club won both awards for "Club of the Year" and "Most Improved Club" for the district.

All clubs held communication nights to give members opportunities to express their speaking and demonstration skills. All staff shared in judging and officiating duties throughout the year.

Many activities were held on a district level such as: Ice Sports, Bowling, Executive Training, and a Dairy Leaders' Workshop.

The District Newsletter, "Members' Memo" kept everyone informed of all club activities.

The Charlottetown District 4-H Council met regularly and honored its leaders in June with a banquet.

A summer student was also hired by Council to work for Council on district and provincial 4-H events.

Two new interesting projects were launched this fall: a 4-H History Project and a Farm Management Project.

Montague District Office

District Short Courses, Information Sessions, Tours, Staff Training

(Organized by this Office; does not include sessions, tours, etc., put on by District Soil & Crop, 4-H or other groups.)

Topic	Duration	Clientielle Attending
Courses		
Paperflow Course for Farmers & Fishermen	8 evening sessions	7
Bookkeeping Course	4 evening sessions	5
Step-by-Step Management Home Study Course	January-April (6 Lessons)	10
Farm Machinery (Tractor) Course	2 weeks	12
Welding Course	evening course (30 hours)	10
Farm Machinery For Farm Women (in cooperation with local W.S.A.)	2 days	12
Farm Computer Course (cont. from Fall '85)	1 evening session	7
Information Sessions		
Beef Cost-of-Production	1 day	5
Dairy Nutrition Workshop	1 afternoon	19
Hog Grading Session	1 afternoon	20
Cow-Calf Production Day	1 day	19
Beef Herd Health	1 morning	7
Soybean Production	1 presentation	20
Personal Money Management	1 presentation	22
Calcium Calculator	7 presentations	55
Abby Plan	2 presentations	28
Nutrition & Exercise	1 presentation	9
Kitchen Magic (2 Sessions)	1 afternoon 1 evening	35 38
You Pick . . .	1 afternoon 1 evening	32 30
Agriculture Around the World	1 presentation	10
I.A.E.A. Information Sessions	1 evening-O'Leary 1 evening-Ch'town	6 3
Canada World Youth Session	1 evening	9
Landscaping the Rural Home	1 evening	35
Wills & Estate Planning for Farm Families	1 day	14
Farm Computer Information Session	1 afternoon	12
Sire Selection Barn Meeting	1 afternoon	12
Soybean Feeding Workshop	1 afternoon	6
Sprayer Calibration Demonstration	1 afternoon	1
Tours		
Pasture Tour	1 afternoon	9

Livestock

The beef cost-of-production session held was an effective "Financial management by commodity" approach, in that it dealt with a small group of cow-calf producers, and got them thinking about their individual costs and possible cost control measures. The Cow-Calf Policy continues to be well-received by local producers, and considerable follow-up is given by District Staff.

Staff support continues to be given to local swine producers, mainly through the Swine Incentive Program.

Crops

It was one of our poorest years for hay/silage-making and for heat-loving crops. Soybeans yields were about half what they averaged in the last three years. The grain corn crop, being tried as a new crop by a few local farmers, was not successful. Tobacco yields were down, as were yields for most vegetable crops.

A successful ragwort control demonstration was set up and maintained, as a joint project with the Pest Control Specialist.

Assistance, in the form of organizing meetings, administrative support, maintaining a sale list, and some assistance was given to local soybean growers to help them get organized. A Cooperative was formed as the result of their activities.

The summer student's time was devoted almost exclusively to crops such as reporting on aphid traps and blight stations, and working on Soil & Crop projects.

Farm & Home Management

Paperflow/Records courses were conducted in conjunction with Community Shcools in Belfast and in Vernon River.

The session on Wills & Estate Planning for Farm Families was well-received. In addition to the professionals, a panel of farm couples discussed how the transfer between generations was taking place in their operations. This was "something new," and their willingness to talk about their own situations was impressive and very helpful.

There is considerable interest in computers for the farm. To meet the demand for information, a farm computer course, a series of evening sessions, was offered in late 1985 and early 1986. In December 1986, a Farm Computer Information Session attracted a very interested group of farmers. Work will continue with this group.

"Preparing Farm Payroll" course materials were completed by the Montague Staff, and distributed to the other Offices, and "Money Talk," a presentation for use with community groups in 1987 was prepared by the District Home Economist, along with two other D.H.E.'s.

Working With Groups

Staff work closely with the rural and farm organizations in the District.

This year we are pleased that the Provincial President of W.S.A is from the Montague District; and we have been able to offer her support and assistance when required.

Staff provided considerable support to the Canada World Youth Project (Sri Lankan exchange) carried out in the Montague area this year from May - October.

For the second year in a row, staff assisted the P.E.I. Women's Network to organize and carry out a session for rural women in the District.

Montague staff are involved with the Dundas Fair. Assistance is given in organizing a 4-H day; organizing clerks for livestock classes; clerking; organizing for judges for crops, home economics, and 4-H classes; judging 4-H and home economics classes; and setting up and looking after the 4-H building.

School Milk Program

The Montague District Home Economist is the Co-Coordinator of the School Milk Program and serves as Secretary of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

Food and Nutrition

As the Department's human nutrition resource person, the Montague District Home Economist has to keep the other Departmental Home Economists up-dated in pertinent aspects of nutrition. She was newly-appointed as one of P.E.I.'s two representatives to the Atlantic Committee on Food; and continues to serve on the Atlantic Advisory Committee on Nutrition. She also chairs the Interdepartmental Nutrition Committee; and attended the Dairy Bureau of Canada meeting for provincial nutritionists.

The two major foods events in the District, Kitchen Magic and You Pick . . . were presented to two sell-out crowds.

The D.H.E. judged food entries at three exhibitions.

I.A.E.A.

Heather Tweedy is the Department's contact person for the International Agricultural Exchange Association. In that capacity she handles the publicity for I.A.E.A., replies to inquiries, interviews applicants, assists successful applicants to complete travel arrangements, etc.

Helen Kelly, Pisquid, returned from New Zealand in April, 1986. Nancy Campbell, Montague, left in March for a 13 month "Around the World" program, working in both Norway and Australia.

Farm Machinery

The highlight in this area was no doubt the 30-hour Welding Course organized primarily by this office with the cooperation of Holland College and Unit IV School Board. For the first time the new facilities at Montague High School were used as a location to teach welding to 12 farmers and 2 fishermen, with Martin Elsinga, High School Instructor, teaching 3 hours per night, one night per week.

The two week Tractor Maintenance Course held in Iona was also well-received by clientelle.

Liaison With Other Programs

Staff continues to try and be aware of all government and farm organization programs, both federal and provincial, affecting farmers, and to act as an "information clearing house" for clients. Inquiries are handled on fuel tax rebates; many financial assistance programs; the special Canadian Grains Program; C.R.T.P.; income tax; dairy quota exchange; Farm Debt Review Boards; seed and food inspection; and many others.

4-H

1986 proved to be another active and successful year, with seven clubs in the Montague District, comprising 49 leaders and 112 members. The members completed 132 projects.

Highlights of the District 4-H year included:

— the annual Awards Day with over 100 members in attendance;

— Club of the Year honours went to the Brooklyn-Heatherdale Club with Sturgeon Bay Club claiming the Most Improved Club of the Year Award; and

— John Van Dyke, Peter MacLeod and Justin MacLeod

competed in the Atlantic 4-H Conference in St. John's. John Van Dyke won his own division and was also awarded the Overall Public Speaking Award.

Montague Soil & Crop Improvement Association

The Montague District Soil & Crop Improvement Association has been involved in a variety of activities in 1986. An evening Bear Pit Session on Cereal Production was held in February; and in March, an Alfalfa Day was sponsored. At the end of May, a "Silage-Making Seminar" was co-sponsored with the Souris District. Each of the sessions was attended by about 20 area farmers.

The District Tour, which visited several field projects, was highly rated by the directors, and involved about 20 participants.

A tour of 10 farmers from the Pictou County Soil & Crop Association was hosted on a District Tour of Field Projects August 28.

Seventeen farmers carried out some 21 projects, as part of the District initiative. They were as follows:

1. Fall Brassicas for beef - on three farms:
   (a) Herman VanWiechen, Brooklyn
   (b) Vincent Naddy, Newtown Cross
   (c) Henry Madigan, Primrose
2. Silage Corn Demonstration:
   Joe & Don Scott, Dover
3. Grain Corn Demonstration:
   Donald MacTavish, Lower Newtown
4. Annual Ryegrass Variety Demonstration:
   Dan Hughes, St. Mary's Road West
5. Cicer Milkvetch Pasture Mixture for Sheep:
   Richard Davies, Flat River
6. Alfalfa Variety Demonstration:
   Joe & Don Scott, Dover
7. Demonstration of Tilt on Ledger Barley:
   Clayton Bulpitt, Roseneath
8. Demonstration of Liquid Hog Manure on Winter Wheat
   Brent Drake, Vernon
9. Monitoring 1985 Pasture Renovation Projects - on five farms:
   (a) Kenny & Cindy MacDonald, Whim Rd.
   (b) Richard Davies, Flat River
   (c) Vera Bates, Brooklyn
   (d) Harry, Arnold and Anthony Nabuurs, Queen's Road
   (e) Glen Swallow, Strathcona
10. Monitoring 1985 Alfalfa Variety Demonstration - on two farms:
    (a) John & Carol MacLeod, Valleyfield
    (b) Joe & Don Scott, Dover
11. Monitoring 1985 Kenhy Pasture Mixture for Sheep:
    Richard Davies, Flat River
12. Monitoring 1985 Kenhy Pature Mixture for Dairy Cattle:
    Bennett MacKinnon, St. Georges
13. Monitoring Winter Wheat Inter-seeded into Soybeans, Fall 1985:
    Harvey Mitchell, Primrose
14. Ragwort Control Demonstration:
    Martin MacLeod, Primrose

In addition to these projects, Provincial Field Projects were carried out on District farms as follows:

1. Barley and Spring Wheat Variety Demonstrations:
   Donald MacQuarrie, Roseneath
2. Soybean Variety Demonstration:
   Jean Mermuys, Heatherdale
3. Corn Variety Demonstration:
   Francis & Arnold Schellen, New Perth

Projects co-sponsored by Provincial Soil & Crop and P.E.P., with participation from this District were as follows:

1. I.C.M. Barley vs. High Moisture Grain Corn:
   Harvey Mitchell, Primrose
2. Alfalfa 2-Cut vs 3-Cut system, harvested in 1986:
   John Knox, Eldon
3. Alfalfa, newly-established, for 2-Cut vs 3-Cut system in 1987:
   Pius Walsh, Elliotvale
4. Alfalfa, under-seeded vs direct-seeded, for 2-Cut vs 3-Cut system in 1987:
   George Matheson, Heatherdale

Farmers from this District always participate in the various Provincial Competitions. In 1986 we had 28 entries in the Silage, Grain, Soybean, First-cut Hay and Second-cut Hay Competitions.

During the year, the Montague Branch held four Directors' meetings, and sent out five newsletters.

A new peg-type measuring wheel was purchased this year. It is available for loan from the District Office.

The Brillion seeder, which is shared with the Souris Branch, completed its fifth cropping season, with a record number of acres seeded in 1986 - 545 acres compared to 510 acres last year, on a total of 45 farms. Over 80 per cent of the use was in the Montague District, where about 40 per cent of the acreage was seeded in alfalfa, about 30 per cent in Annual Ryegrass, about 20 per cent in triple mix. Once again this year, it put in a long season of use.

Souris District Office

Beef

Many of the cow-calf producers are participating in the Beef Cow-Calf Development Program.

In response to this interest, the District Office is making more individual contacts and arranging additional training programs in the form of information meetings, field tours, and on-farm demonstrations.

Swine

Swine health was identified as a priority area and a swine health information session was held.

Dairy

Efforts continue to promote improvements in herd health and reduction of Somatic Cell Counts. Milking procedure evaluation and equipment checks are part of this promotion.

Soils & Crops

The major activity in this area is to respond to farmer inquiries for production information on cereals and forages. Fertility is of particular importance especially with increasing use of urea fertilizers. Many grain growers in this District are practicing the technique of applying extra nitrogen at the proper growth stage for increases in yield and quality. The entire ICM (Intensive Cereal Management) concept is still at an experimental stage in this District.

The Soil & Crop Association, through on-farm field crop projects, continues to demonstrate new cereal varieties, tansy ragwort control, alfalfa production, and the use of extra Nitrogen on barley.

The District Soil & Crop Association has initiated a P.E.P. Project to demonstrate soil erosion control on harvested potato fields through the use of soil ridging. Evaluation of this project continues in 1987.

Farm Management

A Potato Financial Management Course was offered in 1986 with 12 farmers and/or spouses attending. Efforts continue to promote good record keeping.

Installation of a computer in the District Office has enabled staff to provide faster cash flow development for farmers as well as loan calculations. Activity is expected to increase in this area as staff become more experienced with the computer and services are better advertised.

Staff also assisted with completion of P.L.A. and L.D.C. applications for a small number of farmers. Assistance was also offered to those completing D.R.I.E.; P.E.P.; and Market Development Program applications.

Home Economics

Food demonstrations are a very accepted way to distribute information or recipes to encourage the use of locally produced products.

Kitchen Magic - one session - 75 people

You Pick - 3 sessions - 1 Souris, 2 Montague - 90 people

Other events include:

Meals That Count Course - six sessions with 16 registered for the course.

Nutrition Month - presentations to three groups of students on basis nutrition with a total of 169 students.

Parents of Pre-Schoolers - two sessions with a total of 17 parents plus their children.

In the area of Home Management, a session on Personal and Family Money Management was held with 12 in attendance. Also, together with two other Home Economists, put together a package called "Money Talk" for use with community groups. A $tep by $tep Correspondence Course was offered with a limited response.

4-H

The 4-H program in the Souris District involved a total of 138 members in eight clubs. The interest in the 4-H program continues to grow with a gradual increase in the number of members and the number of clubs.

There were 146 projects completed in the District. There has been an increase in the number of members taking part in the livestock projects and with the introduction of the new Green Thumb Gardening Book, 10 members completed the gardening project.

During the past year, members from the Souris District 4-H were involved in a very successful Open House Canada Exchange with 4-H'ers from Melita, Manitoba. The District Council sponsored a number of events including District Communications Competitions, Ice Sports, Junior Camp, Bus Tour and Leader's Night.

The 4-H work carried out includes assisting with club re-organization, preparations for communications, communications competitions, judging for Achievement Days,and providing information and assistance to members and leaders on the various aspects of the 4-H program as well as assisting with various District Council activities.

Media

The District is in contact with clientele by the following means:

Articles in District Section of CornerPost

Postscripts for W.I. News

Monthly 4-H Newsletter

Various issues of District Soil & Crop Newsletter

Souris District Radio Show (every 5th week)

Souris District 4-H Radio Show

Various other Agr. & Home Ec. Radio Show topics

Various flyers, circulars, etc. advertising meetings, courses, workshops, programs, etc.

Home Ec Radio Show

Articles for Island newspapers (Home Ec articles)

Interviews with reporters of Island newspapers

Other Client Events

(Category includes events where staff attended for good public relations)

	Attendance
Annual Meeting, Eastern Kings Exhibition	12
Annual Meeting, Souris Soil & Crop Improvement Assn.	70
Annual Meeting, Souris 4-H Council	20
District Soil & Crop Directors Meetings	
District 4-H Council Meetings	
District Federation of Agr. Meetings	30
Provincial Soil & Crop Directors Meetings	
Provincial 4-H Annual Meeting	
Provincial 4-H Home Ec Project Committee Meetings	
Provincial 4-H Agr. Projects Committee Meetings	
W.I. Workshops	
Potato Bruise Demonstration	30
Provincial Soil & Crop Tour	150
4-H Trip - Rainbow Valley	60
Montague District Soil & Crop Tour	12
4-H Achievement Days	
District Sheep Twilight Meeting	10
Souris-Montague Principles of Silage Making	19
Potato Growers Night: Sponsored by Chemical Co.	100
4-H Bowling	27
Provincial Soil & Crops Conference	
Soybean Co-op Meetings	
Souris-Montague P.E.I. Cattlemen's Assn.	30
District Cream Producers Meeting	15

Education Courses/Events for Clients

(Category includes events where presentations were made or programs organized by staff)

	Attendance
Swine Herd Health Information Session	7
Montague Computer Information Meeting	12
Foods Demonstration, Souris Consolidated Gr. 7	55
4-H Re-organizational Meetings - 8 clubs	
Junior Leader Workshop Senior 4-H'ers	35
Soil Ridging Field Demonstration	2
You Pick Foods Demonstration Programs	90
Field Meeting on Calf Creep Feeders	6
Play & Learn Parents-Nutrition Presentation	9
Personal & Family Money Management	12
Chaperoned P.E.I. 4-H Delegates to Atlantic 4-H Conference	
W.I. Workshops	
4-H Rural Youth Fair	
Tansy Ragwort Control Demonstration - Field Day	20
Farm Accounting Software Demonstration	5
District 4-H Camp	19
4-H Open House Canada Exchange	
Winter Wheat Twilight Meeting	11
Feeding Little Folks - P.A.L. Presentation	8
Improved Cereal Production	5
Beef Tripartite Program	3
District 4-H Club Communications Nights	
Kitchen Magic - Island Foods Promotion	75
Meals That Count Sessions	96
4-H Leaders Appreciation Night	30
Souris-Montague Beef Day	16
Nutrition Month Presentations	169
Beef Cost of Production Workshop	2
Feeding The Dairy Cow	16
Potato Financial Management Course	10
Soybean Co-op Meeting	5
Welding Course	16
Running Effective Meetings	19
Abby Plan & Foods Demonstrations	14
Pasture Project Tour	2

Summerside District Office

The Summerside District office was staffed with an Agricultural Representative (6 months), a Farm Management Representative, Farm Management Technician, District Home Economist, Secretary and summer student in 1986.

Agricultural Courses

Four Agricultural courses were offered in 1986 as follows:

	Client Contact
Dairy Production Course (6 weeks - S'side)	8
Paperflow Course (2 days - Crapaud)	12
(2 days - Summerside)	10
Payroll Deduction Course (1 day - Summerside)	12

Assistance was given by the Farm Management Representative at two Potato Cost of Production courses in Souris and O'Leary involving 23 farmers.

Information Sessions

District staff assisted in and attended Information Sessions as follows:

District

	Client Contact
Bankers Conference (Summerside)	60
Plant Breeders Rights (Summerside)	100
Potato Information Session (Kinkora)	175
Beef Information Session (Summerside)	60
Estate Planning Workshop (Summerside)	40

Provincial Information Sessions

Potato Day (Charlottetown)	100
Potato Buy-Back Program (Charlottetown)	25
Herd Health Update (Charlottetown)	40
Alfalfa Workshop (Charlottetown)	40
Soybean Growers Seminar (Charlottetown)	25

Soil & Crop Conference (Charlottetown)	125
Somatic Cell Seminar (Charlottetown)	50

Other Extension Activities

Potato Hollow Heart Survey	16 farms
Presentation on Potato Hollow Heart Survey at Fertility Day	110
Co-ordinated Use of Brillion Seeder	16
Co-ordinated Master Gardener Program (3 workers)	
Wrote CornerPost Articles	6
Presented Sunday & noon hour radio shows	6
Assisted with ration formulation	(approx.) 20
Assisted with Milk Quota applications	(approx.) 50
Assisted with Gas Tax Rebates	(approx.) 20
Assisted with Federal Fuel Tax Rebate	(approx.) 30
Assisted with Feed Freight Assistance	(approx.) 30
Assisted with DHAS (new accounts)	2

Other Activities Included

Interpretation of soil reports and feed analysis,
Preparing Seed Rebate applications,
Providing individual alfalfa seeding recommendations,
Identification of weeds & insects on request,
Taking potato samples for tissue analysis,
Preparing Lime Subsidy applications,
Preparing Feed Freight Assistance forms,
Preparing Beef Stabilization forms,
Presenting information on Swine Incentive Program,
Providing information on Cow-Calf program,
Assisting with Bull Bonus applications,
Assisting with applications for Tile Drainage,
Assisting with Immigration applications
Assisting with Metric Conversion inquiries,
Assisting with Potato Advance Payment applications, and
Assisting with Potato Buy-Back forms.

Demonstrations Conducted in 1986

	Client Contact
Variety Trials	
I.C.M. on corn, wheat, oats, barley	
Potato Harvester Demonstration - Arlington	40
Ragwort Demonstration (Freetown)	

Tours

Soil & Crop Provincial Tour	100
Beef Pasture Tour	4
Atlantic Provinces Forage Tour	25
Elite Seed Farm	40

Exhibitions Assisted

Summerside Lobster Carnival (3 days)
- plus 5 planning meetings
Egmont Bay Exhibition (2 days)

Involvement With Farm Organizations/Agri Business

Information meetings and demonstrations

	Client Contact
Potato Producers District Meeting (Miscouche)	40
Agro Chemical Update (Charlottetown)	40
Green Cross Information Session (Charlottetown)	125
Chemical Information Meeting (Albany)	150
Potato Marketing Board Annual Meeting (Charlottetown)	60
Federation of Agriculture - District Meeting (Summerside)	40
Federation of Agriculture - Annual Meeting (Summerside)	30
Farmers Helping Farmers Fund Raising Dinner (Charlottetown)	400
Potato Production Day - Malpeque Fertilizers (Summerside)	125
Soil Conservation Seminar - Chamber of Commerce (Summerside)	100
Chamber of Commerce (Seminar Planning Session)	15
W.S.A. Farm Gate Feast (Summerside)	120
W.S.A. Conference - "Option for Changing Times"	40
Community School - Kensington	12
Milk Marketing Board Seminar (Summerside)	60
Soil & Crop Improvement Association - 8 Prov. Meetings	10 (Avr.)
Soil & Crop Improvement Association - 4 District Meetings	8 (avr.)
Potato Field Day - Bedeque (10 companies)	150
Summerside District Dairy Producers Annual Meeting	25
Summerside District Dairy Producers Director's Meetings (2)	5 (avr.)

4-H Activities during 1986 include:

	Client Contact
10 Achievement Days	
5 Communication nights (1986)	140
2 Communication nights (1986-87)	49
3 Area Rallys	
1 District Rally	48
4-H Leaders Banquet	70
4-H Beef Auction	
4-H Awards Banquet	
4-H President's Tour (Conducted, arranged) to Maritime Winter Fair	13
Re-organizational meetings (5)	
4-H Recreation Workshop	
4-H Computer Workshop	
District Council meeting	6
Executive Meeting	2
Lobster Carnival (co-ordinated 4-H activities, classes, distributed prizes, attended meetings)	
Supervised summer student on 4-H activities	

Judged at Provincial Exhibition
Co-ordinated interviews for District 4-H member of the year
Planned intermediate 4-H Conference for Prince County

W.I.

Spoke to W.I. groups (11)	total 131
W.I. Conventions (6)	approx. 400

W.S.A.

Urban Women's Tour	30

Departmental

You Pick Session	40

$tep by $tep Correspondence Course
Kitchen Magic - Charlottetown (160)
- Summerside (90)
- O'Leary (60)

Management

Spoke to elementary schools (3) - Nutrition
Spoke to Holland College group - Budgeting
CNIB Job Preparation - Basic Nutrition, Budgeting
Spoke to Augustine Cove Seniors, New Horizons Group on Nutrition
Budget Session - Social Services Clients
Co-ordinated fact sheets - developed, proofed
Time Management session for 1 W.I. - 9 people
1 Holland College group - 16 people

Media

4-H newsletter	12 issues	150
Farm Report	3 programs	
District Sunday Show	4 programs	
W.I. Radio	1 program	
Q-93 Sunday Radio	3 programs	
CornerPost Articles	2 articles	
4-H Radio Tape	1 program	
CBC Radio	1 program	
Country Corner/Kitchen articles	4 columns	
$tep by $tep articles (Guardian)	11 columns	
Interview with George McNab	1 column	

Promotion

Rhyme & Reason - co-ordinated with Leona, developed script, slides, audio

You Pick Session - demonstrated, co-ordinated in district (40 people)

Judged crafts, foods at 4 fairs.

West Prince District Office

In 1986, there was continued emphasis on extension especially farm calls to the farms in the West Prince area.

Our emphasis this year was:

1. Beef Cow Calf Development
2. Farm and Home Management
3. Forage Improvement
4. Leadership Development
5. Swine Incentive
6. Foods & Nutrition Product Promotion

In reviewing 1986 the following results have been achieved.

The beef sector this year was very active. This year we estimate 99 per cent of the producers applied for the Beef Cow Calf Development Program. This program is achieving its goals of improving quality and records of beef animals.

The West Prince Feed Club held their annual Spring Beef Show & Sale with excellent results. The quality was very high and the 4-H class has steadily improved with the 4-H Champion becoming the Reserve Grand of the Show. The Grand Champion sold for $2.12/lb. and the 4-H Champion sold for $2.17/lb.

Other Activities

1. Encouraging beef producers to enroll on test program.
2. Distributing ear tags and registering producers for cow calf program.
3. Beef Days West -- an information meeting for beef producers has become an annual event.

Swine Commodity

The Swine Sector was depressed for most of the year. In September the market situation improved for the remainder of the year.

Within the last four months of 1986, activity has picked up under the Swine Incentive Program due to the improved market situation.

Other Activities

1. Completed two inspections under Swine Incentive Program.
2. A Minimal Disease Swine Operation was established in September in West Prince.
3. Proposals for Farrow to Finish Operation via cashflow have been made for two additional new operations.

Dairy Industry

The milk producers have generally increased their herd production via actually bidding on the quota exchange and culling the poorer cows from the herd.

The D.H.A.S. Program supervised by Francis Moase have maintained the client load with some producers dropping off and new ones added.

Our main aim in the West Prince area was to reduce our somatic cell count to below the provincial average. We now have no producers over the 1 million mark. Last year we had

4 - 6 farmers in this area.

By working with Ron Sampson and making extra calls to the higher count farmers we are gradually lowering somatic cell counts in problem herds.

Foxes

Work has continued with the P.E.I. Department of Industry representatives in West Prince to encourage some ranches to improve their feeding and pelting systems.

Poultry

Production levels remained constant in the West Prince area over the past year. Broiler, geese and turkey production has increased in the West Prince area. More inquiries were handled in this sector this year than the past two years combined.

Sheep

Production has remained on a constant level in West Prince. More producers this past year have purchased quality rams to improve their breeding stock and the quality of lambs produced.

Cereal and Forage

Problems encountered with the dry spring and then heavy showers and low heat units provided numerous problems. Forage continues to increase in quality with farmers planting alfalfa, treefoil and other recommended varieties. However, due to the season, haying proved extremely difficult.

Pastures have shown marked improvement in the quality of mixes and especially recommended custom mixes for certain soil conditions. With the varieties of pasture seed available the livestock producers are upgrading their pastures. Again this year we saw more long term pasture seeding taking place with a continuing decline in rye grass pasturing. Pasture season extenders kale and stubble turnip have generated more interest over the past year. Other farmers have indicated their willingness to try small acreage in 1987.

A number of farmers tried second cut forages this year. Experimenting with fertilization rates a number of farmers achieved surprisingly good yields. A number of farmers now see the advantage of fertilizing and getting a second crop of forage.

Farmers in this area with silos, especially dairy producers, also found the advantages of grass silage. Corn crops this year varied considerably. A few had good crops, some complete failures; but the majority had poor yields.

Cereals

Cereal production in West Prince turned out well. Winter cereal production continued to expand. After good results last year from the field plots, a number of farmers planted winter wheat. The results were very disappointing. Again inconsistent yields and uncertainty of the crop will discourage large plantings of winter cereals. The West Prince Soil and Crop Association continues to be instrumental in improving cereal and forage production.

Intensive cereal management is still being tested with five producers trying this method at present. However, there are additional producers who are using additional fertilization to increase yields.

Soybean production which has been on an increase was adversely affected by the early frost in September

Potatoes

With the diversion program the majority of the producers were able to survive low prices in 1985 - 1986. Farm and office interview statistics for the West Prince office were up this year, especially farm calls. The potato sector accounted for 40-45 per cent of our increase in farm calls.

Other Activities

1. The summer student made 20 calls per week on 10 farmers who were involved in the aphid trap and potato blight program.
2. The number of tissue samples taken increased substantially over last year.
3. All staff were involved in helping the potato farmers under three diversion programs and related inspections.
4. This year staff of the West Prince office inspected the majority of the cull burial sites in West Prince.
5. Assisted with potato bruising demonstration on two different farms in West Prince in cooperation with the Plant Industry Branch.

Fruits and Vegetables

The number of inquiries for assistance continues to rise. The summer student was trained for crop scouting this spring which was conducted during the summer on carrot and turnip fields in the area. The usage of the cardboard tubes with which to transfer disease and insect samples to the specialist staff in Charlottetown was a great benefit. The tubes protected the samples which provided for a more accurate diagnosis of the problems.

The blueberry industry was disappointing again; poor weather coupled with poor pollination contributed to poor yields.

Farm Management

Farm Management remains a priority with this office. Where possible we work a total management package which includes both the farm and home to achieve an accurate cashflow.

The availability of a micro computer in the district office has provided farmers with the means of having farm

plans prepared on their operations quickly and efficiently.

The use of the computer allows cashflow statements to be developed and alternatives made quickly, allowing more time for analysis and decision making for the clients.

This year approximately 107 cashflow projections were developed along with more than 60 income and expense projections, 26 balance sheets and 110 loan calculations. As we became familiar with the IBMPC and better programming is available, more financial statements and other programs are being completed.

Other programs included 14 credit conferences between farmers, lenders and staff of the office. About 26 business analyses, 12 payroll records and 73 record books were acquired by farmers. This office also helped two farmers become familiar with the use of computers. They now have good income and expense statements, credit account reports and inventory systems on computer.

Four farmers are using the canfarm record system. Presentations on the use of computers in farm management were given at O'Leary Community School and at the West Prince WSA spring conference.

The following courses were offered by this office:

		Attendance
1.	Dairy Financial Management	11
2.	Potato Financial Management	12
3.	Tractor Module	12
4.	Hydraulics Module	16
5.	Cereal and Forage Equipment	5
6.	Paperflow	9
7.	Payroll (2)	13
8.	Income Tax Management	8
9.	Pre Tax Planning December, 1986	8
10.	Silage Seminar	6 farmers to Summerside
11.	Forage Seminar	15
12.	Landscaping Workshop	8
13.	R.S.V.P.	10

The following course was offered in conjunction with Holland College:

		Attendance
1.	Advanced Welding	5

Home and Financial Management programs conducted by the district Home Economist are categorized into three major areas:

1. Food and Nutrition/Product Promotion
2. Management
3. Leadership Development/Organizational Work

Food and Nutrition/Product Promotion

In this area the following activities were carried out:

1. Presentation given to community groups using food demonstrations - two presentations with 64 clients.
2. Provided about 2800 publications on P.E.I. commodities.
3. Assisted farmers' market group with promotional ideas.
4. Completed recipe testing for food promotion program.
5. Assisted in preparation of a new program on slide tape with activities and information "Rhyme and Reason - Insights into your Grocery Cart" for use in 1987.
6. Conducted a Dairy Workshop for 17 farm women.
7. Conducted two seminars for the Elementary Home and School Association on lunches and school milk program, 210 participated.
8. Handled over 210 consumer requests.
9. Held one tour with 12 participants.
10. Media use (a) 2 Food News Pages for CornerPosts.
    (b) 4 radio interviews
    (c) 5 interviews for Country Corner Kitchens
11. A total of 14 presentations were made for approximately 412 clients.

Management

In management the two major areas were Financial and Time Management. Financial management information was discussed with 203 clients by farms and office calls.

On a bi-monthly basis "Step by Step" money management articles are written. Eleven were completed through this office. Three Step by Step correspondence courses were completed. Four presentations were completed with community groups primarily on budgeting and records. Time management continues to have a large number of consumer requests.

Seven presentations were given to community groups on Time Management. One seminar was held for the West Prince women in major topic areas, 95 clients participated in this seminar. In conjunction with courses at Holland College, four time management sessions were conducted for 115 students.

A total of 16 presentations were made on "Management," with 321 in attendance.

In Leadership Development the time was spent with the following groups:

4-H
W.I.
Women in Support of Agriculture
National Farm Womens Network
Exhibitions
Others

1. In 4-H, 3 clubs are active in West Prince and the Home Economist assisted with project work, public speaking training, judging at achievement days and assisted with junior 4-H camp. Attended five district council meetings and the annual meeting. Assisted in re-organizing the clubs for the junior tour and planned a

conference for Intermediate age 4-Hers.

2. Involved in presentations and requests for meeting material for the various W.I. groups in West Prince.
3. Women in Support of Agriculture is a very active organization in West Prince. During the year five general meetings and 21 committee meetings were attended. Arranged with the W.S.A. executive to conduct two tours (1) Co-op Atlantic, Moncton and (2) Atlantic Veterinary College, Charlottetown.
4. Assistance was given in facilitating a meeting to establish National Farm Womens Network. The National Farm Womens Network is becoming a very vital womens group in Canada.
5. Exhibitions - During the Summer, staff are kept busy with exhibitions. This summer the District Home Economist judged at 4 exhibitions. Time was spent re-writing the food classes with the executive of the Alberton Exhibition.
6. Four presentations were conducted with 58 clients on program planning and conducting effective meetings.

   The West Prince office co-ordinated the planning for a successful milking school for farm women. This was the first milking school in West Prince with seven women participating.

   Worked with the Federation of Agriculture on "directions", and was involved in presenting 7 general radio programs.

In all conducted 12 Leadership presentations with 310 clients.

Soil & Crop Association

A wide variety of activities were conducted this year by the West Prince Soil & Crop Improvement Association.

1. Set up, monitored and sampled 11 different district plots,
2. Transported and maintained the following equipment: brillion seeder, rock rake, sub soiler, concertill plow and wick applicator.
3. About 539 acres of plowing was completed with the chisel plow.
4. About 393 acres of forages were seeded by the brillion seeder.
5. The rock rake was used on 117 acres of land this year.
6. The following Provincial Competitions were entered: potato, cereal, forage, soybean, haylage and silage, by various members with the assistance of the fieldman.
7. Clerked and set up exhibits at the Alberton Exhibition.
8. Collect entries in silage, haylage and forages for the competition at the Maritime Machinery Show.

In addition the Association:

1. planned annual meeting and banquet for 75,
2. planned and conducted two Soil and Crop tours,
3. participated in the Provincial Tour,
4. participated in the Provincial Soil and Crop seminar,
5. sponsored hay competition at Alberton Exhibition, and
6. held seven directors meetings.

In 1986 there were 99 members belonging to the West Prince Soils and Crops Association. This year two editions of a newsletter were distributed.

4-H

The 4-H has three active clubs in the area. The three clubs are O'Leary, Duvar and Elmsdale. This was a successful year with approximately 56 members in the three clubs completing 110 projects. The clubs participated extensively this year in the following exhibitions: Alberton, Egmont Bay, Summerside, Kensington, Old Home Week, Crapaud and the Rural Youth Fair.

A 4-H camp for junior members was held in July with 27 members attending.

Fund raising was a major success thanks to McDonald's Restaurants. The 4-H champion steer at the West Prince Spring and Beef Show was purchased by McDonalds and then donated to the Summerside and West Prince 4-H Districts. The cuts of meat were auctioned off in Summerside and approximately $1,800 was raised and divided between the two district councils.

West Prince Junior Farmers

This group is now two years old with approximately 20 members involved. During the past year the group sponsored a tour to NSAC and the Atlantic Winter Fair.

The Junior Farmers also donated trophies to the West Prince 4-H tractor rodeo in both the Junior and Senior Division.

In addition to the above we also worked closely with the following groups:

West Prince Spring Beef Club
West Prince Livestock Exchange Co-op
WSA - West Prince Chapter
Tignish Blueberry Co-op
West Prince Dairy Producers Association
Western Holstein Club

Other activities during the past year that demanded staff time:

— assisted farmers to complete swine incentive, beef cow calf program, feed freight assistance, gas rebates, lime subsidies, bull bonus, certified seed, agro food marketing, soil drainage, PLA, LDC, FCC and milk quota purchase and sale applications

— completions of radio tapes, newsletters and newspaper articles

— assisted farmers to interpret their solid feed and tissue analysis results

— handled numerous requests on insect and spray information, plus seed variety recommendations

— arranged and conducted various tours for farmers and farm women in our area

— clerking and judging at Alberton, Summerside, Kensington, Rural Youth Fair.

Engineering Section

Staff of the Engineering Section continued to provide P.E.I. farm operators with information and programs in the following areas;

— planning and design of farm buildings and systems;
— farm machinery extension;
— land drainage system design;
— soil and water conservation; and
— energy conservation.

These programs are coordinated by the Engineering Supervisor and are carried out with a staff of five agricultural engineers, two engineering technologists, two part-time surveyors and secretarial support.

Farm Building Extension Program

Farm building planning and design services are provided by the Engineering Supervisor/Farm Building Engineer and the Engineering Technologist in Charlottetown and the District Engineer in Summerside.

The demand for new farm building plans was lower than in previous years. This situation reflected the poor market price for potatoes and swine. Renovations and small extensions to livestock facilities as well as upgrading ventilation systems in potato storages provided the majority of demands for building information.

The District Engineer in servicing West and East Prince County clients prepared 17 plans for renovations or additions. The District Engineer also distributed 360 sheets of building plans, 230 leaflets and publications, received 130 office visitors and made 190 farm calls, mostly dealing with farm structures information.

In addition to providing information on farm structures planning, materials and equipment the District Engineer prepared four radio programs, 6 written articles and edited the new Barn Hay Drying publication. The District Engineer also participated in many departmental activities, Atlantic Provinces Committee projects, conferences and workshops.

The draftsman completed 26 new building plans as well as revision to several other plans. Two potato storage plans were submitted to the Canada Plan Service for national distribution. Approximately 175 plan sets and 200 information leaflets were distributed to producers.

The Engineering Supervisor/Farm Buildings Engineer provided farm building information to producers in Queens and Kings Counties. Approximately 80 farm calls were made to view on-site problems and 100 office interviews were completed to discuss building plans, construction materials and ventilation systems for farm buildings.

The Engineering Supervisor developed proposed new guidelines for livestock manure management and separation distances in P.E.I. These guidelines are still under review and have not yet been adopted. The Engineering Supervisor also participated with meetings and programs associated with regional and national organizations and committees.

Farm Machinery Extension Program

During 1986 the Farm Machinery Extension Program continued activities in the following program areas:

Producer and Professional Contacts Many

This most important function of the Farm Machinery Program continued at a high level during this year with 389 producer contacts being made in answering requests for information regarding farm machinery. Also approximately 400 contacts were made with other professionals and machinery industry personnel.

Committees

The Farm Machinery Specialist participated in meetings and programs associated with regional and national organizations including the Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show, the Atlantic Farm Mechanization Institute, and the New England/Eastern Canadian Small Farm Development Council.

P.E.I. Farm Machinery Board

The Farm Machinery Specialist continued to serve as secretary/manager of the P.E.I. Farm Machinery Board.

During 1986 the Machinery Board recommended that the Farm Implement Act of 1968 be replaced.

The Farm Machinery Extension Program continues to provide information to farmers on management, purchasing, operation, maintenance and other subjects as requested by producers. A number of radio programs on timely topics were presented.

The Farm Machinery Specialist assisted in the planning and implementation of a very successful Small Farm Technology Field Day Demonstration and Workshop Program, which was held for the first time at the New England Small Farm Institute. The Machinery Specialist continued to serve as Chairperson of the Appropriate Technology Subcommittee, of the New England/Eastern Canadian Small Farm Development Council.

Energy Conservation Project Continued

The Agricultural Energy Conservation Demonstration Project operated under sponsorship from the P.E.I. Energy Corporation and Management by the Engineering Section.

In total 26 demonstration sites have been funded under the project. To date final reports were prepared on 15 demonstrations while seven demonstrations are undergoing further monitoring and four were terminated.

Fact sheets on energy efficient usage of heat lamps and air-to-air heat exchangers have been prepared. Four articles on energy conservation were written for CornerPost. An on-going information exchange on energy related topics is being conducted with members of the Farm Energy Task Force.

Including the project cooperators, 37 members of the farming community requested information on energy related matters ranging from complex energy balances to energy conservation products. The large interest in wood fuelled heating systems for agricultural building and grain drying systems is due in part to Energy Mines and Resources Biomass Conversion Program. A total of 149 farm visits were made while approximately 73 office interviews were conducted.

Soil and Water Conservation Program Highlights

The majority of work this year again involved providing plans for the ERDA Soil & Water Conservation Program. During the past two years 304 applications have been received under this program. In 1986 the Engineering Section designed detailed plans for 52 applications involving approximately 75 projects. Projects tended to be much larger in 1986 than in 1985. Total planning in 1986 included 700,000 feet of tile, 100,000 feet of open ditching, 15,000 feet of grassed waterways and high capacity surface inlets for four sites for erosion control purposes. Final inspections were completed for 38 applications. Numerous revisions were required on plans to accommodate the changes required for the two levels of cost sharing.

In addition to the Land Development Project work, the Soil and Water Engineer participated in a Soil Erosion Workshop and tour in Grand Falls, N.B. Assistance was given to Agriculture Canada in planning the subsurface drainage performance project. The text for the revised Atlantic Drainage Bulletin was also completed.

The Soil and Water Engineer revised the guidelines for subsurface and surface drainage including grassed waterways and open ditches for the Land Development Program. Assistance was given to the Souris Soil & Crop Improvement Association with the design and layout of cross slope ridges. Planning assistance and a technical presentation was also given to the Soil Erosion Seminar held in Summerside.

The Soil and Water Engineer participated in several Atlantic Committee activities including the Atlantic Land Improvement Contractors Association and the Advisory Subcommittee on Soil and Water

The Engineer also administers the Division Fence Act. Seven fence line disputes were investigated and information on the Fence Act was provided as requested. This Act is under legislative review.

Extension information on drainage and erosion control was disseminated through several CornerPost articles and radio interviews. Tours were conducted to four farm drainage projects and the soil ridging project. A booth featuring land management information was presented at the Soil and Crop Conference and the ALICA workshop.

The Soil and Water Technologist assisted with surveying land development projects, conducted inspections on drainage and erosion projects, and maintained the subsoilers, as well as the department vehicles. The subsoiler was loaned to 20 farms in 1986.

Farm Development Section

The Farm Development Section contributes to the development of Agriculture in Prince Edward Island through:

the co-ordination of the Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program;

the co-ordination of Productivity Enhancement projects within the department;

cost of production studies of the major agricultural commodities and the development of support materials, including computer programs for financial management training and counselling activities; and

farm financial management back up.

The Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program Closes

This program accepted no new applications after May 30, 1986. Those in the program are eligible for their rebate for three years.

The interest rate had fallen to the point where there was no rebate available to property leased through the Land Development Corporation and applications were at a minimum.

To date there have been five individuals who have received rebates in 1986. The rebate paid was $8,453.09 for an average rebate of $1,690.62.

The Productivity Enhancement Program Active

This program continued to be active with nine of the original approved projects being completed, two which were under consideration have been approved, and five have been withdrawn.

Forty-two new projects were formally handled and

reviewed. Decisions to date are as follows.

20 approved
11 rejected
9 withdrawn
2 under consideration

Funding approved for these projects is $488,818 for the 1986/87 fiscal year and $813,287 for the total project cost. Approved funding under the program to date is $2,119,180.

Cost of Production Data Gathered

Data was gathered for industrial and fluid milk, potatoes, swine, eggs and broilers. The following is a summary:

Commodity	Farmers Contacted	Number Surveyed	Number Used In Analysis
Dairy - Industrial	57	33	27
Dairy - Fluid	42	40	30
Potato	59	29	24
Eggs	6	5	4
Swine	43	17	15

Seven contacts were made for the broiler cost of production.

Provincial Farm Debt Review Board

This board was established in May as an interim measure to provide assistance to farmers dealing with a financial crisis. The Board membership consisted of Stan MacPherson as Chairman, Edwin Walker, and Charles Coles.

The Board dealt with 12 farm cases, representing 18 farm families. Assistance provided to farm families varied from case to case and included assistance in developing proposals for lenders, letters of support to potential lenders, and comments on potential courses of action being considered by the farmers.

Commodity Development Incentives Program Appeals Board

The board was saddened by the loss of its Chairman, Walter Dingwell who passed away during the year. The board held three meetings and dealt with 16 cases which included 10 defaulters, five appeals and one other. Repayment of grant received from one defaulter was $2,172 with an additional $1,857 pending from a bankruptcy case.

Potato and Tobacco Crop Insurance Appeals Board

This board held a total of five meetings dealing with 11 different appeals of which three were on the Board's agenda more than once. Six of the appeals were recommended for payment, one was withdrawn and four were turned over to the Department of Justice.

Livestock Section

The Livestock Section was involved with all aspects of the livestock industry in 1986. The major emphasis continued to be the upgrading of productivity, and the efficiency of Prince Edward Island producers. Major activities included:

— increased activity in the Swine Incentive Program particularly in the advance portion of the program;

— providing D.H.A.S. service to interested dairy farmers;

— providing R.O.P. services for beef, sheep and swine to assist in selecting breeding stock;

— continuous efforts to improve milking systems and to control mastitis in dairy herds;

— increased emphasis to encourage participation in herd health and production recording programs for beef, swine and dairy;

— providing a ration formulation service for all classes of livestock;

— continuing forage quality information program;

— providing disease testing services for poultry and fur bearing animals, and

— providing extension programs such as courses, newsletters and information meetings for all livestock commodities, and

— working with APHIN on the production and health information network.

Dairy

The dairy industry as a whole was stable in 1986 but the number of producers continued to decline, except that fluid producers increased in numbers.

Producers	Dec '84	Dec '85	Dec '86	Change
Industrial	478	443	402	-41
Fluid	139	156	170	+14
Cream	259	233	210	-23

Prince Edward Island producers utilized 100.5 per cent of the 2,913,000 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for milk and 89.3 per cent of the 280,000 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for cream for an average utilization of 99.5 per cent for the 1985/86 dairy year ending July 31, 1986

D.H.A.S.

The Dairy Herd Analysis Service provides a herd management and milk recording system for dairy producers. This service is provided by a staff of six supervisors under the direction of the Dairy Production Specialist.

The milk and feed samples are analyzed in the department's feed laboratory. The data processing is done by D.H.A.S at MacDonald College and serviced by a terminal in Moncton.

In December, 1986 there were 174 herds and 5,750 cows enrolled in D.H.A.S. Of these 65 herds and 2,500 cows were on the official option. Two new official herds were enrolled in 1986 while two left the program. There is no longer a waiting list for either portion of the program.

In 1986 D.H.A.S. enrolled 28 new herds while losing 17 herds for the following reasons: four herds out of dairy, one herd transferred to R.O.P., and the remainder for various other reasons.

D.H.A.S. staff continue to promote the National Identification Program for dairy cattle. In 1986, 600 new animals were enrolled.

Animal Breeding Program

The A.I. program in Prince Edward Island is administered by the P.E.I. Artificial Breeders Association whose membership includes cattle breeders using the service. The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture participates by liaison with management and by providing an annual operating grant. First service breedings for 1986 decreased by approximately 500 to 17,000. This represents the lowest number of breedings for several years. The lower numbers are attributed to decline in numbers of dairy cows and low economic returns in farming and limited availability of quota.

Survey Re Breeding Practices In Dairy Herds

In total 346 farms responded, representing 10,190 cows and 3,420 heifers.

	Breedings in Per Cent of Total	
	Cows	Heifers
Dairy A.I.	64.2	50.0
Purebred bull	10.9	15.7
Unknown ancestry	2.7	5.4
Beef A.I.	8.4	13.3
Purebred bull	9.7	11.2
Unknown ancestry bull	4.6	4.4
	100.0%	100.0%

Importation of Dairy Breeding Stock

The department assisted with the importation of 85 head of dairy female breeding stock at a cost of $8,700.

Extension Efforts

The Livestock Section dairy extension efforts are in three areas:

1. Programs to reduce sub-clinical mastitis and improve milking procedures and equipment use.
   a. Farm calls
      -87 milking equipment and procedures
      -8 stray voltage
      -6 milker and barn design
      -12 other.
   b. meetings with equipment dealers, veterinary clinics and extension staff.
   c. quarterly somatic cell count reports and comparisons to veterinary clinics and district Agr. offices.
   d. awards and recognition to producers with low Somatic Cell Counts.
   e. the home study correspondence was revised
   f. milking school for farm women at O'Leary (7)
   g. took part in a Milk Quality Seminar for veterinarians at the Atlantic Veterinary College.
   h. presentations re Somatic Cell Count to two producer meetings (70).
2. Programs to promote breeding stock and selection and proper use of sires:
   a. assistance with purebred sales (6)
   b. assistance on sire selection committees (3)
   c. assistance with exhibitions (7)
   d. assistance to breed associations with meetings, clinics
   e. news releases on production records, A.I. bulls, etc.
   f. information meetings on reproductive performance and sire selection
3. Feed testing and ration formulation.
   a. direct service to individual farms
   b. advanced nutrition courses

Beef

The beef industry again experienced volatile prices with the market being low from April to June and rising to profitable levels the last few months of the year. The National Tripartite Stabilization program was introduced in July with P.E.I. as an active member. There was a payout under the program for the second quarter to partially compensate for losses. Garden Province Meats opened their new plant in the summer and continued to provide beef producers with a competitive market.

Cattle slaughter at federally inspected plants was increased by 14 per cent to 29,118 head of P.E.I. origin as of December 27, 1986. There were 8,513 cattle slaughtered in provinically inspected slaughter houses, which is a decrease of 1287 head.

Beef R.O.P.

In the 1985/86 testing year, there were 67 herds on R.O.P. with 1166 animals starting test and 810 completing test.

There is still a strong demand to test bulls at the Maritime Bull Test Station. Twenty-one Island producers

are testing 50 bulls during the 1986/87 test. The test station underwent an expansion in 1985 and is filled to capacity with 217 bulls.

The station sale again has proven popular with commercial cattlemen from the Maritimes and Quebec. The April sale had an average price of $1,568 on 71 bulls compared to last year's average of $1,598 on 67 bulls.

Policies

The Bull Bonus Program offered by the department to encourage the use of superior herd sires paid a total assistance of $43,300 on 99 bulls. Under the beef female importation policy $3,000 was paid on 30 animals.

Cow-Calf Development Program

This is the second year for the Cow-Calf Development Program, with its chief objective as improving the quality of beef calves. There are 237 producers enrolled in 1986. These producers will be testing calves from 4500 cows. To date about 3400 calves have been weighed. The average 200-day adjusted weaning weight has increased by 17 lbs. per calf.

Weighing services were provided by the department and three part-time staff were hired to assist in the weighing. Computer summaries of each farm were prepared and returned to the producer. The summaries included adjusted weaning weight, identified top producing cows, averages for male and female calves and the herd, and comparison to 1985 P.E.I. averages.

A joint effort between the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Ag. Canada and Garden Province Meats has allowed the introduction of the Beef Carcass Appraisal program in December. This program provides producers with a summary of the merits of each individual carcass and therefore allows a producer to accurately assess the quality of the beef he is producing. He can then make changes in his feeding or animal purchasing practices to take maximum advantage of the market.

Extension Activities

Other extension activities included cow-calf and feedlot seminars, assistance to the Cattlemen's Association with pasture evaluation projects, the Easter Beef Show and Sale, bimonthly newsletter, CornerPost articles and radio programs. A feedlot tour to Ontario with 14 producers participating, was held in March and included a forage feeding seminar, electronic auction, research station and a number of feedlots. The section also assisted with exhibitions by providing clerking and/or judging for various classes.

Sheep

The sheep industry has stabilized with relatively firm prices and good demand locally for Island lamb. There is still a market for Island purebred breeding stock outside the region.

Marketing

The P.E.I. Lamb Co-op is the major purchaser of lamb in the province. They purchase lambs from Co-op members and market them directly to local stores. There were 1,074 lambs slaughtered at provincially inspected facilities in 1986 which is a decrease of 76 from last year. Other sales are direct farmgate, the Truro livestock sales, and through N.B. and N.S. buyers.

R.O.P.

There were 620 lambs from 19 flocks tested under the sheep R.O.P. program in 1986.

Policies

The Ewe Retention Policy paid assistance on 131 ewe lambs and 20 rams were bonused under the Ram Bonus Policy.

Extension activities during the year included a Sheep newsletter, assistance with the breeding stock sale, the freezer lamb directory and sheep information sessions.

Swine

The new "kill, chill and cut" plant coming on line for P.E.I. hog producers and a return to profitable market prices for the second half of 1986 were the two most important events in the swine industry this year.

The section's major thrust was with increased activity in the Swine Incentive Program and emphasis on increased productivity. The objective still is to increase the competitive position of Island producers over the next few years.

Hog Slaughter of P.E.I. origin was down slightly from 1985, basically because the first part of 1986 saw a continuation of the trends from 1985 with the last part of the year showing an increase in slaughter over the previous year because of higher prices and a more promising outlook for the future. This was evident in the significant expansion taking place or being planned on a number of farms.

R.O.P., Boar and Gilt Bonus Policy

There are 22 farms participating in the R.O.P. program with all of them selling breeding stock. Six other farms probed gilts for selection of breeding herd replacements.

The Animal Industry Branch supplies a technician to probe pigs in minimal disease status herds, while the Livestock Section technician provides this service to convential herds.

Minimal Disease Stock

	Qualified	Disqualified
Boars tested	128	60
Boars sold	69	
Gilts tested	870	269
Gilts sold	562	

Conventional Stock

Boars tested	367	88
Boars sold	215	
Gilts tested	544	79
Gilts sold	363	

The test station in Nappan, N.S. is again ready to accept pigs from P.E.I. under a decentralized testing program and more emphasis will be placed on estimated breeding values.

Swine Incentive Program

	1985	1986
Number of Applicants (total)	340	450
Market hog base	137,964	145,254
Weaner base	106,094	124,677
Advances		
Applications (total)	49	71
Predicted feederhog increase	21,666	34,238
Predicted weaner increase	18,500	21,991
Amounts paid each year	**$**	**$**
Directed increased production	59,560	459,761
Support on hogs marketed	459,131	983,768
Advances paid	323,929	419,096
Minimal disease assistance	960	17,040
Management incentive	0	19,487
Advances approved, but not yet claimed		311,228

Result for the first 18 months of the program are:

- 255 producers showed a combined increase in hogs marketed of 49,545 head.
- 51 producers showed no change in hogs marketed.
- 125 producers showed a combined decrease in hogs marketed of 20,755 head. This includes cleanouts for minimal disease.
- Nineteen producers discontinued for a loss of production of 9,055 head.

In addition, 14,987 base production of hogs was lost through discountinuation of businesses prior to the start of the program.

Extension Activities

Because of continued emphasis on swine production significant extension activity took place during 1986 including the following:

- workshops on changes in the grading system (45)
- workshop on hedging for swine producers (5)
- information meeting on production records (75)
- information meeting on herd health (60)
- meeting on estimating breeding values (33)
- agricultural teachers workshop (7)
- media releases for radio, CornerPost, the Island Farmer
- extension staff updating
- assistance to the Swine Breeders Assoc., the Multiplier Breeders Assoc. and Quality Swine Inc.
- assistance to exhibitions in swine shows
- tours to the N.S. and N.B. swine producer meetings
- presentations to veterinary students
- R.O.P. biweekly boar and gilt summaries
- marketing factsheet
- updating the sow productivity record system
- working with Ag. Canada on computerized budgets.

Poultry

Egg Production

P.E.I. had 31 registered egg producers representing 120,000 layers. This is a reduction of 2 producers. The remaining egg quota of 24,000 layers is divided among smaller producers.

Egg production per hen is unchanged at 22 dozen marketable eggs per year.

The Board purchased approximately 50,000 - 15 dozen boxes as surplus eggs which were sold to the breaking industry in Quebec. This is about the same as last year.

Our egg industry is now self-sufficient in producing replacement poulets at a rate of 70,000 poulets per year. All replacement poulets are sample blood tested for vaccination immunity. A total of 540 samples were taken and sent to NSAC.

There were no serious disease problems diagnosed in the province this year.

Broiler and Roaster Production

Approximately 550,000 broilers were raised on the Island in 1986 which is a 160 per cent increase. Roaster production increased by about 60 per cent to 100,000 birds. The increase in broilers is due to one modern new facility. However our quota of 4,000,000 lbs. is still not filled. Broilers are shipped off the Island while roasters are all marketed locally.

Turkey Production

There was a significant increase in turkey production this year. No statistics are available but we estimate 35,000 turkey poulets purchased, which is 15,000 more than last year. All are marketed locally.

Waterfowl Production

Waterfowl production has increased over the last number of years and is currently estimated at 8,000 geese and 4,500 ducks. There is still room for some expansion in this sector.

Other Activities

The P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board has continued to service the egg industry, while the P.E.I. Marketing Council administers the activities of the P.E.I. Chicken Marketing Board.

There were 240 birds examined at the pathology lab, 540 blood samples collected and 75 feed samples analysed. Three commercial hatchery supply flocks and 24 bird fanciers flocks were blood tested (1,500 birds) and vaccinated for I.L.T. disease (1,400 birds).

Eight poultry shows were held on the Island and two exhibitors sent birds to the Royal Agr. Winter Fair in Toronto with very good results.

The egg promotion committee met five times, the egg quality committee met four times and the poultry specialist participated in seven Egg Board meetings and three producer meetings.

Waddell's processing plant handles a large volume for the local market in roasters, turkeys and waterfowl and is essential for this type of production. The plant is for sale.

Nutrition

In 1986, 4244 feed samples were processed through the P.E.I. Feed Testing Laboratory. The results from these analyses were used either for ration balancing or ration evaluation.

Recommendations for ration preparation and proper feeding rates continued to be required on a daily basis. Again, this year, whole soybeans and crab meal commanded a great deal of attention as new sources of supplemental protein. Additional areas of interest in nutrition included:

1) the use of low calcium diets to reduce the incidence of milk fever in dairy herds;
2) the use of protein sources of differing solubilities to more effectively utilize the protein in the rations of high producing dairy cows;
3) the use of buffers for dairy cows consuming high grain diets;
4) investigations of lower than expected milk production in P.E.I. herds;
5) the use of Rumensin in beef cattle rations to improve feed efficiency;
6) the use of ensiled poultry manure in feeding programs for beef cattle; and
7) assistance in the preparation of submissions to the Federal Productivity Enhancement Program.

This was the fourth year for the Forage Quality Program. Each week during the growing season, a report is issued on the quality of forage as it is growing in the field.

Courses given this year dealt with a variety of subjects including: forage quality, silage making, whole soybean feeding and sow nutrition.

One of the highlights of the year for Island dairy producers would have had to have been the series of nutrition information sessions presented by Tom Sawyer, a private consultant working in the Midwest.

Fur

Ranch furs marketed for the 1985-86 season were 10,553 mink and 12,790 which is an increase of 20.4 per cent and 14.6 per cent respectively.

Extension activities included working and judging at shows, newsletters and working with the P.E.I. Fur Breeders Association, as well as with individual ranchers.

Testing of mink for Aleutian disease is a service provided to ranchers.

Miscellaneous

The Livestock Section provided assistance to 14 different breed associations. Assistance was also provided to 30 breeders exhibiting livestock at the Maritime exhibitions and to 19 breeders showing at the Royal Winter Fair.

The department paid a grant towards 51 foals under the Draft Horse Improvement Policy.

Extension activities included sponsoring information meetings for horse associations, plus supplying information on a request basis.

Community Pastures

The five community pastures operated very smoothly during the 1986 year. Total number of animals on pasture was 2,740 broken down as follows:

	1985	1986
Head of Hillsborough	185	101
Kelly's Cross	784	751
Wellington	803	500
Ellerslie	1,049	888
Lauretta	542	474
	3,363	2,740

The four major pastures have all gone to implanting steers and using insecticide tags for fly control. The cost of these extra services are completely recovered from the producer.

Performance on the pastures was good in 1986.

Rural Development Section

The Rural Development Section is responsible for:

(1) the development of farm management information and services in the area of farm planning, credit and finance, estate planning, taxation and other associated topics for farmers and extension staff;

(2) provision of opportunities for skill development by farm families through training events such as courses, workshops, tours, and conferences;

(3) leadership training and skill development for rural youth through the 4-H program;

(4) financial assistance programs for students enrolled in vocational, technical and degree programs in agricultural schools and colleges; and

(5) programs such as Agri-Crew and Maritime Farm Certification Program which provide farm experience and training to young people.

These activities and programs are designed to aid farm families in the economic development of their farms and to assist in making rural Prince Edward Island a better place in which to live and work.

Policies 1 & 2 Continue

These policies are designed to encourage and assist Islanders to obtain training in technical and professional agriculture and to ensure a continuing supply of trained people for the agricultural industry. Under Policy 1, NSAC receives reimbursement for the costs of providing technical training to Island students. The student receives the equivalent of a round-trip rail fare per academic year.

Those already employed in agriculture are assisted through Policy 1 in taking approved Correspondence Courses related to agricultural production and marketing. Those who are enrolled in the Maritime Farm Certificate Program and who are not eligible for assistance through CEIC may also obtain assistance.

Following are the numbers assisted in 1986: Policy 1: (1985 in brackets)

NSAC students	25	(38)
Olds College	1	(0)
Correspondence Course students	1	(2)
Maritime Farm Certificate Program	3	(0)
Total	30	(40)

Policy 2 assists Islanders engaged in studies leading to a Bachelors degree in Agriculture, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or Bachelor of Agricultural Education. Following are the numbers assisted in 1986 by Policy 2:

NSAC	28	(23)
University of Guelph	1	(1)
MacDonald College	4	(2)
Technical University of NS	1	(0)
Ontario Veterinary College	6	(6)
Atlantic Veterinary College	10	(0)
Total	50	(32)

Farm Organization Policy Active

The P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, the National Farmers' Union, the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization, and the Women in Support of Agriculture submitted projects for funding under the Farm Organization Policy in 1986.

The Federation of Agriculture received approval for a Farm Safety Project. The following projects were also approved for the Federation:

- Participation in Ottawa re Bill C-25, an Act to Amend the Agricultural Stablization Act;
- Newsletter in "Island Farmer";
- District Marketing Workshops and Provincial Marketing Seminar;
- Farm Energy Project;
- Organization and Finance;
- Free Trade Study
- Livestock Council
- Farm Credit and Income Study.

The following projects were approved for the National Farmers' Union:

- Agriculture Then and Now Part 1;
- Agriculture Then and Now Part 2, An Evaluation;
- Soil Conservation Projects;
- Sustainable Agriculture Conference, Wolfville, N.S.;
- Raising awareness among sectors in food industry about the situation of farmers.

The following projects were approved by the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture for the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization:

- **Charlottetown Group**
- Annual Meeting and Conference;
- National Rural Youth Conference.

- **West Prince Group**
- Annual Meeting and Information Session;
- Attend Young Farmers' Educational Organization Annual Meeting in Indiannapolis, Indiana.

The following projects were approved by the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture for the Women in Support of Agriculture:

- **Charlottetown Branch**
- School Bus Tour;
- Urban Tour "Farm Gate to Your Plate"
- Local Agricultural Tour;

- **Central Branch**
- School Bus Tour.

- **West Prince Branch**
- Educational Programs for Meetings;
- Spring Conference;
- Local Agricultural Tour;
- Leadership Development Course.

- **Provincial WSA**
- Annual Meeting;
- Leadership Training.

Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Committee and Budget

The Agricultural Employment Committee is funded jointly by the Government of Canada (CEIC) and the Province of Prince Edward Island (PEIDA), and the budget is administrated by the Training Coordinator.

Agri-Crew Successful

One hundred and seven farmers, obtained the services of Agri-crew in the summer of 1986. An Agri-crew is a group of four students available to work for farm families for up to five days at rock-picking, fencing, painting, brush-clearing, or other work for which a farmer would not normally hire labour.

The Prince Edward Island government hired 24 students under Agri-crew as part of its Student Employment Creation Program for the summer months of 1986. The Training Coordinator was responsible for supervising the program, and its crew coordinator. One hundred and seven work orders were processed with 10,206 hours of work logged by the crews.

Resource Centers Offer Materials

The Rural Development Section continued to staff the Farm Center Resource Center during 1986.

The Farm Center Resource Center continued to be used extensively. Films, slide sets, equipment and books were loaned each day to home economics and agriculture teachers, to Departmental staff, farm organizations, and individuals. The Farm Safety Committee used the slide sets and films a great deal.

Audio-visual equipment is being used mainly by Departmental staff, members of commodity boards, and farm organizations.

This section also continued to be responsible for the ordering of materials for all five Resource Centers. This included books, audio-visual materials and periodicals.

Regular Training Budget Used

A number of commodity specific district courses and tours within the province were held for farmers, organized by District staff and others, and financed through the Rural Development Section.

The following are the statistics for 1986 for Farm Welding Courses held.

District	Trainees
Souris	13
Montague	12
Charlottetown	11
Summerside	10
West Prince	6

The Rural Development Section funded the costs of out-of-province resource people for various information days and conferences including:

Lloyd Brown, New Brunswick, Greenhouse meeting;
Les Young, George Bowman, and BD McKersie, University of Guelph, Provincial Crops Conference;
Dennis Stier and Norm Sheidow, Delhi, Ontario, Tobacco Conference;
Tom Sawyer, Illinois, Dairy Nutrition Workshops.

The Rural Development Section funded part of the cost of sending farmers to various conferences and tours out of the province in 1986. These persons were funded for educational purposes -- either for individual training or for information to be brought back to the industry. These included:

Drainage School, Ontario
Pork Conference, New Brunswick
Canadian Horticulture Council, Ottawa
Pork Conference, Nova Scotia
Beef Tour, Ontario.

Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Agreement

The Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Committee Held 3 Meetings During 1986.

Emphasis has been on negotiating the new Agreement, reconstituting the new Committee, and determining appropriate approaches in administering the terms of the new Agreement.

Training-Agriculture Short Courses

Courses assisted in 1986 were as follows:

Course Title	PT/FT	Location	Seats
Potato Financial Management	PT	O'Leary	12
Potato Financial Management	PT	Souris	11
Farm Machinery Modules	PT	Elmsdale	48
Farm Machinery Modules	PT	Iona	24

Training-Maritime Farm Certificate Program

With the introduction of Canadian Jobs Strategy, funding of the Maritime Farm Certificate Program contracts was halted.

The Province of Prince Edward Island is funding 3 trainees in the Maritime Farm Certificate Program.

Dairy Farm Worker has been designated as a skill shortage area on Prince Edward Island. As a result, federal funds for training dairy farm workers are now available.

The Prince Edward Island Farm Skills Advisory Committee which oversees the operation of the Maritime Farm Certificate Program on Prince Edward Island, met six times in 1986.

Canadian Rural Transition Program

Representatives of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture provide an initial contact for applicatants. They also provide technical advice to the Canadian Rural Transition Program Coordinator.

Program statistics are as follows:

Applications received	5
Approvals	2
Pending	2
Pending review committee recommendations	1

A 3-member Review Committee, including a representative of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, has been established to review applications where approval is not recommended.

Farm Management Resource Materials Provided

The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, through the Atlantic Committee on Socio Ecomonic Services, cooperates with other provincial Departments of Agriculture in the Atlantic region in the production of Farm Business Management booklets. In 1986, the Rural Development Section was responsible for updating six publications -- one on the topic of wills and a series of five on the topic of tax management.

4-H Program in 1986

The programs and activities carried out in 4-H are guided by the following four objectives:

Leadership and Personal Development
"To increase the effectiveness of rural people in group situations by involving them in leadership development and personal development programs."

Family Life
"To strengthen the total family unit by developing the individual in skills, family relationships, home management and community involvement."

Agriculture
"To help develop viable farm units through instruction in the skills of management, production and marketing of agricultural products."

Public Relations
"To increase the appreciation for agricultural problems, conditions and programs by carrying out a public relations program for consumers, agri-business, legislators, clientele and future clientele.

Leadership and Personal Development

Under the objective of leadership and personal development, the programs are aimed at developing the personal abilities of both 4-H leaders and members.

4-H members have participated in award trip programs for the past 50 years. The majority of National and International programs are sponsored and co-ordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. 4-H members were involved in award trip programs at the Atlantic, National and International level during 1986.

Interprovincial Exchange is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada and co-ordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. Four Prince Edward Island 4-H members were chosen to travel, as follows:

Member	Club	Destination
Robbie Sanderson	North River	Alberta
Cheryl Doyle	Summerville	Ontario
Cheryl Thompson	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield	Quebec
Erin Davis	Sturgeon Bay	NFLD.

The Citizenship Seminar involved six 4-H members representing Prince Edward Island.

Member	Club
Susan Affleck	Freetown
Sherri Ellis	Elmsdale
Kim MacPhee	Chepstow-Little Harbour
Tony Peters	Springfield
Dianne Stevenson	Pleasant Valley
Greg Weeks	Cloverleaf

Washington Conference - The Canadian 4-H Council sponsors one 4-H member from each province. P.E.I.'s representative was Michael MacDonald from the Little Pond 4-H Club.

National 4-H Careers Conference - The conference program, held in Winnipeg, focused on career counselling. Tours included the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange, the Canadian Grain Institute and many other industry visits. P.E.I. representatives were:

Member	Club
Leesa MacLeod	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Carolyn MacQuarrie	North River

National 4-H Conference

The 4-H members attending the conference were as follows:

Member	Club
Cindy Campbell	Seaside
Douglas Campbell	Lot 16
Gary Campbell	Elmsdale
Karen Ford	North River & Wheatley River
Carolyn MacLaughlan	High Hopes
Stephen Matheson	Wheatley River
Corey Montgomery	French River
Shelley Wallace	Elmsdale

Danforth Scholarship is a leadership camping program in Michigan, U.S.A., sponsored by Ralston Purina of Canada. Attending the two-week leadership program were Jacinta MacDonald of the Morell 4-H and Denton Moffatt of the Cavendish 4-H Club.

Canadian National Exhibition Scholarship was awarded to James Boswall of Frenchfort who is currently enrolled in the Pre-Veterinary Science Program at the University of P.E.I.

Atlantic 4-H Conference with the theme of "Communications" was held in St. John's Newfoundland.

The Atlantic level of the Public Speaking and Demonstration Competitions were held at this conference. P.E.I.'s five competitors were:

Member	Club	Category
John VanDyke	Summerville	Senior Public Speaking
Justin MacLeod	Uigg-Kinross	Junior Public Speaking
Peter MacLeod	Brooklyn-Heatherdale	Single Demonstration
Erma Arsenault & Christine Gallant	Evangeline	Double Demonstration

The delegates attending the Atlantic 4-H Conference were; from the West Prince District, Bruce Adams, Tyler Ellis, Maxine Gallant and Melanie Warren; from the Summerside District, Erma Arsenault, Calvin Burt, Christine Gallant and Corey Montgomery; from the Charlottetown District, Andrew MacKenzie, Vanessa Palmer, Ronnie Stewart, Sally Wood, Susan Dixon and Darren Toombs; from the Montague District, Justin MacLeod, Peter MacLeod, and Mary Jean Murphy; and from the Souris District, Tony MacPhee and Sharon Ward.

The Petro Canada 4-H Youth Leadership Award

This is an annual scholarship established in 1985. Maribeth Noonan of the Albany 4-H Club received the $1000 scholarship. She is a first year student at the University of New Brunswick.

Junior Farmer Conference and Exchange - Ontario

One Island Junior Farmer member, John MacLauchlan of Covehead, was selected to attend the annual meeting of the Ontario Junior Farmers' Association. A hosting program was arranged for John on a farm of an Ontario Junior Farmer after which he attended the three-day conference and annual meeting.

Leader Travel Opportunities

The year 1986 also had educational opportunities for 4-H leaders. Trips to Toronto, Washington, Manitoba and Saskatchewan broadened the knowledge and interest of Island 4-H leaders.

National 4-H Leaders' Conference - The seventh annual Leaders' Conference was held in Toronto from November 12-16. Five leaders from each province participated in this National Conference. The delegation from P.E.I. consisted of the following leaders:

Leader	Club
Alex Dixon	North River
John MacDonald	Sherbrooke
Eric Phillips	Elmsdale
Glen Swallow	Grand River East
Robert Wood	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert

Washington Leaders' Conference - Two 4-H leaders participated in the Washington Leaders' Conference in 1986. Pauline MacPhee of the North River 4-H Club and Patsy Doiron of the St. Ann's 4-H Club attended the conference in April.

Manitoba Leaders' Conference - Emma Vandaele of the Whim Road 4-H Club and Ida Noonan of the Albany 4-H Club travelled to Winnipeg in March to attend the Manitoba 4-H Council's Annual Meeting and Leaders' Conference.

Western 4-H Leaders' Conference - Saskatchewan - Two Island 4-H leaders, Donna Carr of Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club and Sidney Watts of the Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club attended this Conference in Saskatchewan November 1-5.

Provincial 4-H Camp

This year's summer camp was held at Camp Abegweit in Augustine Cove from July 14-18. The theme of this year's camp was "Communications".

The camping program consisted of two camps:
Junior (9 - 11 years of age) — July 14 - 16 (40 attended)
Intermediate (12 & 13 years of age) — July 16 - 18 (49 attended)

Prince Edward Island 4-H Council

The 4-H Council is now in its thirteenth year. The Officers for 1986 were as follows:

Officers	Positions
Kay Wall Summerside District	President
Carol MacLeod Montague District	Vice-President
Gwyneth Jones Department of Agriculture	Secretary-Treasurer
Brian Dingwall Souris District	Past-President

Prince Edward Island 4-H Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting

The Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting were held February 7 & 8 in Charlottetown. This year's Leaders' Conference attracted 50 4-H leaders.

The Provincial Annual Awards Banquet saw Winsloe-Brackley 4-H Club receive the trophy as the Most Improved Club of the Year. The following leaders received certificates for 5, 10, 20 and 25 years of 4-H leadership.

Five Year Certificates

Minnie Campbell	Seaside 4-H Club
Wendell Cameron	Freetown 4-H Club
Diane De Jonge	Millview-Vernon River 4-H Club
Janice Ellis	Elmsdale 4-H Club
Edmond Gallant	Evangeline 4-H Club
Judy Landrigan	Sturgeon 4-H Club
Sylvia Matheson	Wheatley River 4-H Club
Anita McCabe	Belfast 4-H Club

Brenda Montgomery	French River 4-H Club
Elda Pidgeon	French River 4-H Club
Laura Pidgeon	French River 4-H Club
Bill Pidgeon	French River 4-H Club
Kevin Simmons	Tri Com 4-H Club
Susan Simmons	Tri Com 4-H Club
Allison Smith	Freetown 4-H Club
Lorna Thompson	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club
Gwen Thompson	Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
Blois Weeks	Pleasant Valley 4-H Club

Ten Year Certificates

Raymond Bernard	Evangeline 4-H Club
Margie MacLeod	Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Lois MacLeod	French River 4-H Club
Iva Mutch	Cherrycliffe 4-H Club
Annie Noonan	Albany 4-H Club
Eileen Peters	Springfield 4-H Club

Twenty Year Certificates

Mary Doyle	Alberry Plains/Summerville 4-H Cl
Hilda Stead	Wheatley River 4-H Club

Twenty-Five Year Certificates

Olive Weeks	Wheatley River 4-H Club

The "Friend of 4-H Award" for 1986 was presented to Agro Co-op. Manager, Jim Baillie.

The P.E.I. 4-H Council Annual Meeting was held before the Provincial Awards Banquet. Brian Dingwell, President, chaired approval of the Home Economics, Agricultural, Program & Travel and the Finance Committee Reports by the Board of Directors. Annual reports were made by 4-H District Council Presidents.

Program & Travel

Brian Dingwell, chairperson of the Program & Travel Committee, conducted its activities. The Provincial Communications Competitions were held in May and the Provincial Champions were as follows:

Name	Section	Club
Lori Bailey	Junior Public Speaking	East End Circle
Justin MacLeod	Inter. Public Speaking	Uigg-Kinross
John VanDyke	Senior Public Speaking	Summerville
Peter MacLeod	Single Demonstration	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Erma Arsenault Christine Gallant	Double Demonstration	Evangeline

The Program & Travel Committee is responsible for the Annual $1000 Provincial Council Scholarship. It is awarded in June to a deserving 4-H member entering a post-secondary institution. The scholarship was awarded to Joanne Wall of the New Annan 4-H Club.

Family Life

Two projects were revised and updated - Macramé and Great Beginnings. Both of these books required a complete overhaul and are now in use by members and leaders.

A Leaders' Guide for Food & You I was prepared in answer to the many requests received from Foods I leaders.

The Provincial 4-H Home Economist, in conjunction with the Charlottetown District 4-H Worker, organized the 4-H Learning to Lead Workshop for Senior Members interested in becoming Junior Leaders. This workshop was attended by 35 4-H'ers.

The Home Economist organized a 4-H Home Economics Projects display for the 4-H Leaders' Kick-Off Night. This display allowed leaders to view completed projects and gave a clear picture of the Achievement Day Requirements.

Agriculture

Eartags

The 4-H staff kept a complete list of 4-H project animals' eartag or tattoo numbers. This was used at the exhibitions and Rural Youth Fair to ensure that calves were not shifted mid-season.

Market Steer Shows

As part of the requirements for the Market Steer Project, members were asked to participate in a tour of Garden Province Meats facilities and the meat section of Towers Food. In addition, members viewed a slide show on the Canadian Beef Grading System.

Jamie MacKinley from the North River 4-H Club received a price of $5.50 per pound for his Champion 4-H Steer shown at the Easter Beef Show & Sale in Charlottetown while Melanie Warren of the Elmsdale 4-H Club exhibited the Champion 4-H Steer in the Prince County Spring Beef Show. She received a price of $2.17 per pound for her animal.

Exhibition Book

The 4-H staff produced the annual Exhibition Book which was sent to all 4-H families. It outlined the rules and regulations for nine Island exhibitions and the Maritime Winter Fair.

Exhibitions

Provincial 4-H staff ran 4-H classes at the Provincial Exhibition and the Rural Youth Fair as well as running the Provincial Judging Competition. Provincial staff also assisted District Agricultural Staff with the Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition, Alberton Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival, Dundas Plowing Match and the Souris Exhibition. The Provincial 4-H Agrologist chaired the 4-H show at the Maritime Winter Fair.

Drop-In Centre

The 4-H Drop-In Centre was opened for seven days during the Provincial Exhibition with a total of 30 members acting as hosts and hostesses. 4-H entries and materials were displayed and refreshments were sold in the Centre.

4-H Livestock Day

To avoid the busy schedule for members during 4-H Day at the Provincial Exhibition, it was the Committee's decision to hold the Livestock Judging Competition at a more suitable time. On July 18, the Provincial Livestock Judging Competition and a Beef/Dairy Fitting Demonstration was held. The day was collectively called a 4-H Livestock Day.

United States National 4-H Dairy Conference

The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, the Provincial 4-H Council, the P.E.I. Holstein Breeders and the P.E.I. Milk Producers' Association collaborated to send two 4-H members to the United States Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The selected delegates were Cheryl Thompson, Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club and Stephen Howatt, Freetown 4-H Club.

Livestock Judging Clinic

A day-long judging clinic was held May 17. Members and leaders attended sessions on five different farms in the Summerside area. The workshop was well attended with more than 40 members present.

Rabbit Clinic

Approximately 25 4-H members and leaders attended a Rabbit Judging and Showmanship Clinic. Because the project was relatively new and very little is known on the Island about showing rabbits, the response from clinic participants was very positive.

A Nova Scotia 4-H Rabbit Project leader and several members conducted the workshop.

Gardening Project

The new Gardening Project met with successful completion, as 26 4-H'ers exhibited their vegetables at the Rural Youth Fair.

4-H Day at the Maritime Winter Fair

Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia again sent delegates to compete in classes at the Maritime Winter Fair. Island 4-H members placed as follows:

Member	Class	Placing
Jamie MacKinley	Jr. Angus	1
Tracey Stewart	Sr. Angus	1 & Ch. Angus
Karrie Duncan	Jr. Hereford	1 & Ch. Hereford
Paul Godfrey	Jr. Shorthorn, Sr. Short	1, 1 & Ch. Shorthorn
Linda Docherty	Jr. Shorthorn	2
Sherri Dixon	Jr. Shorthorn	3
Sherri Dixon	Jr. Shorthorn	2
Dennis Docherty	Jr. Shorthorn	3
Karrie Duncan	Jr. Exotic	1
Jamie MacKinley	Jr. Exotic	2
Julie Stewart	Jr. Exotic	3
Karrie Duncan	Sr. Exotic	1
Karrie Duncan		Ch. Exotic
Linda Docherty	Jr. Beef Showmanship	3
Sherri Dixon	Sr. Beef Showmanship	2
Tracey Stewart	Sr. Beef Showmanship	3
Sherri Dixon		Reserve Champion Beef Showman
Charles Dickieson	Jr. 1 Holstein	1 & Reserve Champion Holstein
Kim Thompson	Jr. 1 Holstein	2
Cathy Jewell	Sr. Ayrshire	1
Andrew Dickieson	Jr. Dairy Showmanship	3
David Dickieson	Sr. Dairy Showmanship	2 & Reserve Champion Dairy Showmanship
Linda Docherty	Sr. Dairy Judging	1
Mark Docherty	Sr. Dairy Judging	2
David Dickieson	Int. Dairy Judging	1
Sherri Dixon	Int. Beef Judging	2

Kent Phillips was selected for the Maritime Judging Team to attend and judge at The Agribition in Regina in November.

Rural Youth Fair

The 36th annual Rural Youth Fair was held on September 6 at the Provincial Exhibition Grounds. The fair was opened to all 4-H members who successfully completed their project, with approximately 500 projects being exhibited.

An action-packed program had more than 300 4-H members participating in events such as a tractor rodeo, races, club displays, showmanship competition, and horse, beef, dairy and rabbit classes.

The 1986 Rural Youth Fair had the following activities added to the event:

— a Scavenger Hunt organized by Summerside District;

— a noon lunch was served by the Wheatley River 4-H Club, (hamburger or chile and milk) representing the Charlottetown District Council;

— a tug-of-war competition organized by West Prince District Council; and

— a Tractor Rodeo run by Montague District Council.

'86 Special

Again this year, a special showmanship training class for 9 and 10 year old beef and dairy members was held at the Rural Youth Fair. Senior 4-H livestock members and livestock leaders were each assigned two 4-H members with whom to work. Instruction covered the areas of fitting and grooming, sportsmanship and showmanship. During the 30 minute session with member and calf, emphasis was placed on learning rather than competition. Approximately 25 4-H members participated.

Agribition 1986

A four member team Maritime 4-H Judging Team was selected at the Maritime Winter Fair. This team participated in an International Livestock Judging Seminar held at the Agribition in Regina. Kent Phillips, Elmsdale 4-H Club, was a member of the Maritime Team and placed 10th overall in

the International Competition.

Contact Hays Classic

Six Island 4-H'ers participated in the Scotiabank Hays Classic held during the Royal Winter Fair. Island competitors fared well in the competition. David Dickieson placed fourth in showmanship over 90 other members. The P.E.I. representatives were: Dianne Stewart, Kim Thompson and Karen Thompson of the Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club; Gilles Bernard of the Evangeline 4-H Club; and Melanie Doiron and David Dickieson of the Cavendish 4-H Club.

4-H Farm Management Project Session

A day-long introductory session was held in late December for 4-H members enrolled in the Farm Management Project. The information and exercises which the members received during the session were similar to project material. The exercises included Balance Sheets and Income and Cashflow Statements.

New & Revised Projects

New and revised projects produced by the Agriculture and Home Economics Committees and the 4-H staff:

Revised
Beef II
Dairy I
Woodworking II
Horse & Pony I
Horse & Pony II
Market Steer
Garden
Macramé
Great Beginnings
Food & You I Leader's Guide
New
Farm Management
Dairy 6
Rabbit II

Other New & Revised Books & Pamphlets

Leaders' Information Manual
Exhibition Book
Rural Youth Fair Book
Achievement Day Kits
Demonstration Book
New Leaders' Booklet
District Office Pamphlet

Public Relations

Media Coverage (radio, newsletters)

There were 52 4-H radio programs produced as a regular Saturday show. These shows are aired on the four local radio stations.

The monthly newsletter "Leaders' Line" was mailed to all 4-H leaders and district 4-H staff from the Provincial 4-H Office.

The Provincial 4-H staff also contributed to the Department of Agriculture's monthly publication, "CornerPost"; and sent articles and news releases to the local media about various provincial 4-H activities.

Assistance with District 4-H Programs

District 4-H events which 4-H staff from the Provincial 4-H Office helped to organize and/or attend included:

- district 4-H Council Annual Meetings,
- district project workshops,
- various 4-H District Council Meetings,
- district leaders' banquets,
- approximately 20 4-H Achievement Days,
- club level communications nights
- district level public speaking & demonstration nights,
- district Island Foods Project Meetings, and
- 4-H programs at Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition, Souris Exhibition, Dundas Plowing Match, Alberton Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival, Egmont Bay & Mont Carmel Exhibition.

New Brunswick/Nova Scotia 4-H Groups

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia sent several groups to tour P.E.I. P.E.I. 4-H staff helped to arrange tours, find accommodations and matched them up with other 4-H clubs.

Small Farms Program

This program offers a specialized on-farm extension service to small -scale and part-time farmers. It emphasizes economic development opportunities specifically designed for small farm operations, including appropriate information and technology, management of commodities, record keeping and development of information not available locally. The program also assists groups who wish to cooperate in collective projects and programs.

Staff

There are 13 Agricultural Resource Workers employed in the Small Farms Program, in addition to a Supervisor and a Secretary. During 1986 they offered program services to 524 farm families.

Small Farms Board

The Small Farms Board is made up of 12 small scale and/or part-time farmers who advise the Minister and the Program on Small Farm Policy and direction. During 1986, Charles Duffy from Fort Augustus completed his term as Chairperson and Morley Pinsent from South Granville was appointed as the new Chairperson. The Board met 10 times during 1986.

Master Gardener Program Completes Year Three

The Master Gardener Program successfully completed its third year in Charlottetown and its first year in Summerside. The program revolved around the use of well experienced home gardeners who volunteer to assist the department with home garden calls received during the growing season. New volunteers were given a 48-hour training program. New and returning volunteers worked with department staff to answer inquiries. In Charlottetown, one volunteer returned for her third year with the program, five volunteers returned for their second year and two new volunteers joined the program. There were three volunteers in Summerside for 1986. The Charlottetown Master Gardeners volunteered 240 hours and answered 360 calls. The Summerside volunteers, volunteered 150 hours and answered 200 calls.

Home Gardens

The Horticultural Worker made numerous media presentations and community group presentations. Master Gardeners also made numerous media and community group presentations.

Courses

The Small Farms Program organized a successful Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration and Production short course in April, featuring a guest speaker from Nova Scotia. About 25 people attended an evening pruning demonstration and production session in West Prince. Approximately 15 people attended an evening information session in Charlottetown and another 25-30 people attended a half day pruning demonstration held in Bellevue.

About 47 cream producers attended five workshops held throughout the province. Nancy McGill, the Vice-Chairman of the Ontario Cream Producers Marketing Board, was the main resource person for these workshops which stressed on-farm quality production.

A Sheep Information Day was held in April with about 15 sheep producers in attendance.

In cooperation with the West Prince District Office, an information session was held in March for West Prince Beef Producers. About 20 producers attended this program.

A herb tour was held in June with 20-30 people in attendance.

Conferences

The Small Farms Program assisted producers to attend three out-of-province conferences, including:

a) Alternatives for Agriculture Conference held in Woodstock in November;

b) Appropriate Technology Demonstration & Seminar held in Belchertown in September; and the

c) N.B. Horticultural Congress & Farm Market Association Annual Conference in Fredericton in February.

Working with Groups

The Small Farms Programs assisted the P.E.I. Organic Growers Association in the development of a market study proposal.

The program also assisted the P.E.I. Farmers Markets to work together provincially. Through this network, the markets cooperated on the purchase of plastic shopping bags imprinted with the logo "Meet Me at the Market." They also conducted a provincial generic advertising campaign and arranged for a survey of consumers' opinions on farmers markets.

The program has assisted the formation of the West Prince Orchard Group.

Publications

The Small Farms Program continues to provide material monthly to "CornerPost" for the Small Farms Program section.

A non-commercial vegetable production fact-sheet "potatoes" was added to the present series of 22 non-commerical production factsheets.

An information sheet on the carrot rust fly was prepared for home gardeners.

Survey Completed

In November, a questionnaire was mailed to 460 clients of the Small Farms Program asking for their views on the issues that concern them. More than 30 per cent of the questionnaires were returned and the survey findings were used to formulate future directions for the program.

Statistical Summary-Small Farms Program

Dec. 86

No. of farms served: 524

Ages of farmers:	20-30	31-40	41-50	51+
	57	132	126	209

Category of farms:	Full-time	part-time	hobby
	202	301	21

Size of farms (acres)	0-10	11-50	51-100	101+
	40	63	141	278

Commodities on farms:	Forages	beef	grain	cream
	315	292	275	161

swine	fruit	forestry	vegetables	pototoes	poultry
91	81	78	64	63	61

sheep	self-sufficiency	horses	market garden
53	38	35	32
organic farming	fur	bees	dairy goats
17	16	13	13
waterfowl			
10			

New England and Eastern Canadian Small Farms Council

The Small Farms Program provided the financial support for this province's contribution to the New England and Eastern Canadian Small Farm Development Council. The Council is made up of representatives from the six New England states and the five Eastern Canadian provinces. During 1986, the co-chairmen were the Maine Commissioner of Agriculture and the Prince Edward Island Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

During 1986 the Council concentrated its energy and resources on re-assessing the needs of regional small-scale and part-time farmers, and in sponsoring the Second Small Farm Technology Field Days in Belchertown, Massachusetts.

The Departments' interest in small scale agriculture development led to its participation in the "Conference on Sunrise Agriculture" held Oct. 20 and 21, at the University of Maine, Orono.

The conference concentrated on policy issues and proposed problem solving in regard to the future direction of small scale agriculture within the region. The basis theme of the conference was the future of a sustainable agriculture in the region.

The conference concluded on two points: the usefullness of a common effort in developing policy directions; and the need to raise the consciousness of both the agricultural sector and the food consuming public to the value of a small scale locally producing agriculture.

Marketing Branch

The Marketing Branch offers marketing assistance, expertise and programs to farm organizations, commodity groups, associations, cooperatives and individuals. The Branch's objectives are to tie together production initiatives to market opportunities, identify new markets, provide an analysis of marketing opportunities including outlook and forecasting information, and to provide commodity promotion and educational programs. The Branch also provides information on market organizational options particularly for establishing commodity groups. The Branch provides a planning and statistical analysis service and represents the department on a number of intergovernmental committees, task forces, and working groups where marketing, planning policy and statistical issues are discussed.

The Branch's principle function remains one of providing extension information and marketing services to farm clientele and to the department.

1986 will be remembered as the year when agricultural trade issues gained prominence and trade negotiations were begun in earnest. Canada and our largest trading partner, the United States, formally started negotiations toward reaching a more liberated trading environment commonly referred to as "free trade" talks. Canadian agriculture is vitally interested in and affected by any such agreement. The marketing branch has represented the Department on a number of Federal-Provincial work groups charged with analysing this issue, determining the effects upon the local industry and initiating discussions with similar interest groups in the United States. The Branch Director serves on the Agriculture Trade Policy Committee with the nine other provinces and Canada. The Branch Director co-chairs along with the State of Maine a Canada-United States potato trade group whose objective is to better understand trade irritants and trade issues between the two countries. Better understanding of the potato trade issues and facts should help alleviate future border and general trade irritants.

Canada's agricultural ministers have agreed to implement a National Agricultural Strategy. There are a number of elements in this strategy including Marketing, Trade, and Income Support proposals. The Branch has contributed to the development of this strategy which will take on increased significance as the agricultural sector attempts to find ways of effectively dealing with national and international influences upon the sector.

Planning was started mid-year for the Agricultural Conference slated for March, 1987. The Conference is for the agricultural industry with the theme "Competing in the Marketplace". This conference will have a definite focus on marketing issues - this is in keeping with the Department's desire to raise the profile of marketing.

The Branch continued its responsibility for the development and coordination of agricultural planning in 1986. The Planning Secretariat made up of senior department staff and chaired by the Branch Director, is responsible for establishing the broad terms of reference for planning and making policy recommendations to the Minister. Two planning officers are attached to the Branch who provide support services to the work plan as determined by the Planning Secretariat.

The Branch Director serves on the Prince Edward Island Marketing Council. The P.E.I. Marketing Council is responsible for the supervision of the activities of commodity marketing boards operating under the Natural Products Marketing Act.

On a regional basis, the director represented the Department on the Atlantic Committee on Food and the Atlantic Committee on Marketing and Distribution. The purpose of these committees is to provide a forum for exchanging ideas and for joint action on a number of issues relating to marketing.

Activities and accomplishments of the Marketing Branch is high-lighted in the following reports:

Livestock Marketing

Major areas of activity and concern are outlined below.

Pork

The Branch continued to administer the Hog Stabilization Program in association with the Hog Commodity Marketing Board. In addition, departmental involvement with the assembly yard subsidization program and transportation assistance to processors was continued.

The last six months of 1986 saw a marked improvement in market hog prices with producers contributing some $450,000 through check-off toward reduction of the industry debt under the stabilization plan. The average market price for hogs over the entire year was $80.80 per cwt. while the average support level for the year was $78.25 per cwt.

Consultations took place between the Marketing Branch and the Hog Commodity Board in several areas including: provision of pertinent information to the Canadian Pork Council re: the U.S. Countervail Action; institution of a computerized system to handle Hog Stabilization Program administration; the effect of the revised Hog Carcass grading system; and continuing discussions re: assessment of weaner pig suggested prices as those relate to the stabilization base price in order to ensure that both weaner and feeder operators receive fair and equitable treatment.

The Branch also sponsored a session on the subject of "Hedging in Hog and Grain Futures" for the benefit of hog producers with an interest in that area. Multplier breeders have also requested and received assistance in the area of

promotion of their primary product (swine breeding stock).

Beef

1986 saw the start- up of the National Tripartite Program with programs available for cow-calf and slaughter cattle producers who opt to participate. To date 150 slaughter cattle producers have joined. These represent approximately 40 per cent of Island slaughter cattle production and 10 per cent of cow-calf production. A program for feeder cattle producers will be offered early in 1987.

The beef grades display was set up for the second year at the Easter Beef Show in March. The display demonstrated the wide range of carcass types and the desirability of certain types to meat retailers and consumers. Producers are thus able to determine the type of animal yielding a superior carcass, and demand a higher market return for them.

Producer groups such as the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association and breed organizations also received support in their search for markets for beef and/or live animals, as well as promotion of their respective products.

Dairy

During the dairy year ending in 1986, dairy producers filled 99.5 per cent of the P.E.I. milk market sharing quota by marketing 76.8 million litres of industrial milk and 250,000 kg. of butterfat in the form of farm separated cream. In addition, 14.2 million litres of milk were produced for the class 1 market. Island class 1 sales increased approximately two per cent over the previous year.

The Cream Producers' Assistance Program was administered during the year, distributing $40,000 to assist farm separated cream producers with transportation costs.

Branch staff represented the Department at the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee meetings and the annual meeting of the Atlantic Dairy Council. There was branch representation on the Dairy Commodity Team and the Dairy Quality Improvement Committee.

The Marketing Branch ensured a close connection with the dairy industry through liaison with the Marketing Board, processors and other government departments together with marketing agencies in other provinces.

Lamb

A National Tripartite Program for lamb producers also became a reality in 1986. To date 15 producers have joined the program representing a small percentage of Island lamb production. Each of the tripartite programs required a premium from producers for each animal registered in the program. The Provincial and Federal governments then match those premiums and a fund is established for participating producers to draw from when market prices fall.

The Marketing Branch in association with sheep producer groups is also trying to facilitate the sale and delivery of wool to regional markets.

Other

Involvement in the National Beef Tripartite Stabilization Committee continues with responsibilities for policy establishment and decision-making regarding operation and improvement of the program. Staff also attended a session during the year designed to teach skills in planning promotions, and that coupled with similar sessions at the Atlantic Marketing Branch's annual marketing seminar served to provide greater insights and improve personal skills in those areas.

Crops Marketing

Potatoes

The potato industry in 1986 faced the lowest market prices in years with farm gate prices only a fraction of the cost of production. This created many economic hardships for producers and gave rise to the call for change in our potato marketing system as well as for stabilization and/or diversion payments.

Potato Diversion became a reality in late February with the Provincial and the Federal governments equally funding the $12 million diversion program. This program was successful and assisted many growers in planting a crop in the spring of 1986.

Potato stabilization was initially refused as Agriculture Canada claimed the stabilization fund was expended and no monies remained to cover potato producers' requirements. This issue has not been conclusively decided and efforts are still being made on behalf of our producers for a stabilization payment.

The call for change in the marketing structure of the potato industry was met with a series of meetings held in four centres of our province with four options for change discussed. These options were Supply Management, Demand Management, Tri Partite Stabilization and the National Farmers Union Potato Commission.

At a subsequent meeting of the Canadian Horticultural Council, agreement was reached by all potato producing provinces to reopen negotiation for a National Potato Agency based on Supply Management. These negotiations have resulted in a proposal to be presented in hearings to be held early in 1987.

The government was presented a petition calling for a plebiscite on the 1956 Marketing Act. This plebiscite indicated change was desired, as a result a Royal Commission was established to look into the potato industry. The Department of Agriculture is encouraging the Potato Producers Association and the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board to examine their industry to formulate a position paper and recommendations for change. This process is well underway and initial results are encouraging.

Courses were put on for the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board and the Producers Association to increase their knowledge and assist in the process of change. These courses were a "Directors Training Course", "Steps to Planning a Promotion", and "Effective Meetings". These courses were well attended and achieved the desired objectives.

A seed promotion package, including a video presentation, was completed and has been widely accepted and used. Planning was begun for the development of a similar package for tablestock for use at trade shows, promotional dinners and other available venues. In addition, a training video in potato handling is planned for use with produce managers for in-store settings.

A number of trade shows were attended by the Department of Agriculture and potatoes were represented. These shows include: Food Pacific/86 and Produce Marketers Association of North America. These shows provided the opportunity to show our quality potatoes to dealers and buyers from Canada, United States and many other potential market areas. The results of these efforts were encouraging and will provide new market opportunities.

A summer student was hired to undertake a computer search of potato usage and this resulted in a written report that will provide much needed information to assist the potato industry.

The "Potato Commodity Team" had several meetings during the year and is in the process of updating the "Potato Commodity Report". Marketing has developed a marketing component to this report and this has been circulated. In addition new variety development has begun under contract with the Dutch firm Z.P.C. and a marketing component to these development plans has been presented and accepted.

Potatoes Canada has had a difficult year. This has created the need to examine this organization and the future role the Department of Agriculture should play with this organization.

Many other events were attended, including Food Marketing Challenges/86 and these contributed to the development of the Potato Marketing Co-ordinator's role in the potato industry. The year proved to be a successful and a busy one, with positive development to the benefit of the potato industry.

Hay Market Development

The Marketing Branch worked closely with the Island Hay and Straw Co-operative Ltd. in the areas of promotion, market investigation and development, organizational planning and improving processing efficiency.

A promotional brochure was developed for use in both the domestic and offshore markets. The co-operative will be marketing its forage products under the brand name "Gold Cup Forage" and will use this identification on each compressed bale.

The Branch assisted the Co-op to increase its share of both the domestic market in Newfoundland and the export market in the U.K. A sales depot established in St. John's will increase sales to its target group, the small volume purchaser. The Co-op visited its U.K. customers and gained understanding of the quality standards, competition and pricing in that market.

Marketing staff worked with Agriculture Canada in the development of a phytosanitary protocol for forage products exported to Japan.

Grain

Marketing staff has worked closely with management and directors of the Grain Elevators Corporation to continue to improve the volumes and services offered by the corporation.

A staff member has attended several Maritime meetings in the preparation of an Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative to be implemented over the next ten years.

A staff member participated in meetings of the Atlantic Grains Council which represents the issues of common interest facing the grain industry.

A staff member worked closely with soybean producers to help form a P.E.I. Bean Co-op and negotiate storage and handling of the soybeans with the P.E.I. Grain Elevators Corporation.

Cole Crops

The P.E.I. Cole Crop Growers Co-operative had a successful season with one of the best crops in terms of yield and quality grown in recent years. The Marketing Branch assisted the producers to negotiate sale of their crop in Quebec and to cover some expenditures for management, accounting, and field services.

European brussels sprouts varieties have proven to be superior in both quality and yield.

Blueberries

Staff worked with blueberry producers in the marketing of their crop. Blueberries were sold in Nova Scotia and Maine. Markets were better than 1985, but some light yields were reported.

A visit was made to several blueberry grading operations in Nova Scotia to determine equipment required to effectively pack fresh blueberries in the future.

Strawberries

Small volumes of berries available for processing resulted in arrangements for processing to be carried out in Nova Scotia rather than in Prince Edward Island. Processing markets were much improved and fresh market demand was strong. Growers experienced some problems finding pickers to harvest the crop.

Some assistance was provided to two strawberry growers in exploring fresh market potential in

Newfoundland. Successful shipments were made to Newfoundland by air.

Cranberries

Preparations were made to assist Goose River Co-op in the marketing of cranberries, but both spring and fall frost resulted in a crop failure.

A staff member has worked closely with a local packer who has increased his marketings of cranberry sauce into other Atlantic Provinces. The department assisted in arranging for the raw product used.

Strawberry Plants

Westech Agriculture Ltd. was assisted in the marketing of 350,000 strawberry plants to the Florida Market. Westech Agriculture Ltd. produce plants by tissue culture and field grow the plants for one season. Plants are harvested and shipped to Florida in October for immediate replanting.

Pedigreed Seed

The Branch assisted the P.E.I. Pedigreed Seed Marketing Board in developing a project monitoring quality of seed grains and soybeans.

Greenhouse Growers

The Branch assisted the Greenhouse Growers Association in the development and expenses of a promotion of the greenhouse industry.

Milling Wheat

Staff worked closely with a small number of producers who produced milling wheat for shipment to Dover Mills through the Nova Scotia Winter Grains Marketing Board.

Grass Products

Staff worked with the P.E.I. Development Agency and a private firm in a test production of processed grass and soybean products. Future potential in these areas were examined.

Farmers Markets

The Marketing Branch provides technical assistance and limited financial support for the establishment and development of farmers' markets. At present there are six cooperatives markets; in Tignish, Bloomfield, Summerside, Charlottetown, Wood Islands, Montague and Souris. The Charlottetown market is year round; the others are seasonal. There has also been marketing and promotion education assistance offered to various farm marketing groups and individuals. This has involved travel and attendance at marketing seminars.

The School Milk Program

The School Milk Program is administered by the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd., a non-profit body with members from the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, The P.E.I. Dairy Producers Association, the P.E.I. Fluid Milk Processors Association, the P.E.I. Dept. of Education and the P.E.I. Dept. of Agriculture.

The P.E.I. Dept. of Agriculture is represented on the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. by Lynn Hansen, Promotion Specialist, and Nancy Reddin, Montague District Home Economist.

Participation

All but three of the Province's eligible schools are participating in School Milk.

The student price of milk for both school terms 1985-86 and 1986-87 is 12¢ for a 200 ml or 24¢ for a 400 ml serving from a dispenser or 22¢ for a 250 ml carton of white milk.

The statistics for the 1985-86 school year indicate that the program continues to be successful.

A total of 1,076,682 servings, (a record high), or 230,923.5 litres of milk were sold in 69 schools in the 1985-86 school year.

The school year 1985-86 School Milk sales were 10.6 per cent greater than the 1984-85 school year.

Education, Research and Promotion

As well as the primary goal of increasing the milk consumption of the elementary, junior and senior high school students, the program encourages school children to develop positive, lifelong attitudes and habits for proper nutrition through research, education and promotion activities.

Thanks to funding from Agriculture Canada's Market Development Program and Employment and Immigration, The Foundation was able to undertake two major education and promotion projects in the Spring of 1986.

An "Irreplaceable Milk" promotion was directed specifically to junior and senior high school students and, "Madame and Mr. Moo", along with a new character, made a return visit to 43 elementary schools.

Milk consumption increased greatly in the junior and senior high schools during the six weeks of the "Irreplaceable Milk" promotions. Scratch-and-win tickets with accompanying student learning activities and teaching activities were the basis of the program.

As with their first visit in 1983-84, "Madame and Mr. Moo and friend" were very highly rated in the June '86 teachers and principals evaluation.

In 1986, their musical drama presentation focused on choosing foods which are healthy for one's teeth and body. The P.E.I. Dental Association co-sponsored this project as one of their Dental Health Month activities.

A School Milk Program elementary school parents' newsletter was developed and circulated through the schools in September, 1986.

Then in November, 1986 a Milk flyer featuring nutrition education materials provided by the foundation, was circulated to Island elementary schools.

Co-ordination

On behalf of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd., Patricia Manning replaced in April '86 by Lynn Hansen, and Nancy Reddin, are the co-ordinators of School Milk. They administer and monitor the Program and are responsible for implementing the education, research and promotion projects.

Both are Directors of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. and act as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Additional details of the School Milk Program are provided in the Annual Report of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

It is only through the excellent support and co-operation from many groups including principals, teachers, superintendents, parents "school" milk co-ordinators, dairies and the dairy producers, that the Foundation has been able to make the School Milk Program a continued success.

Commodity Education and Promotion

The Commodity Education and Promotion Programs of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture are designed to assist Island agricultural groups in the education and the promotion of their products to chosen clientele.

The Education and Promotion Program of the Marketing Branch, support two primary objectives.

These objectives and their corresponding programs are as follows:
Objective 1. ***To promote the use and value of agriculturally produced foods and their relationship to overall good eating habits.***

Commodity Group Projects

Through the Promotion Committee of each of the following agricultural commodity groups, boards or associations, Education and Promotion Programs are planned, co-ordinated and implemented, on their behalf.

Dairy: In co-operation with the West Prince District Home Economist, a Marketing Workshop for women in the dairy industry was conducted. Attendance approximately 20.

Lamb: The P.E.I. Lamp Co-op's objectives are "to make consumers more aware that fresh Island lamb is available" and "to educate the present less frequent and more frequent user of lamb how to better prepare and use lamb for family and guests".

Promotion and Education Projects included:

A. October, 1986 lamb month . . . October, '86 was the focus for a promotion consisting of (i) in-store demonstrations: (ii) up-grading of the lamb displays at the meat counter; (iii) newspaper advertising; (iv) media public relations, via news releases, CornerPost, Food News, etc. (video distribution of the publication "Island Lamb for All Occasions".)

B. The food service project with selected outlets was continued.

Potatoes

To support the promotion programs of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board.

Assistance was given for professional staff to man the Board's booth at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and the Canadian Fruits and Vegetables Wholesalers Conference and APEX.

Recipes were tested and supplied to the Potato Board for distribution in retail outlets in Toronto and Montreal.

The object was to provide updated trendy recipes which were easy to prepare.

Beef

In co-operation with the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association and the Beef Information Centre, a "cut it with Island Freezer Beef" promotion was held during the fall, 1986. It consisted of newspaper ads advertising a freezer beef giveaway contest and additional freezer beef information and an insert in CornerPost with information and send back coupons.
Note: contest response was approximately 250.

Vegetables

Seasonal vegetable recipes were tested in response to increased consumer demand.

Honey

The publication "Honey Fun" was updated and reprinted in co-operation with P.E.I. Beekeepers Association.

Raspberries

In co-operation with the new P.E.I. Raspberry Growers Association the following were carried out.

- the testing, development and printing of a new raspberry publication: "Rasberry Rhapsody";
- seasonal newspaper advertising with a clip and return coupon for the publication. Response was approx. 350; and
- support in planning, publicity, and carrying out the first annual Raspberry Festival.

Blueberries

In co-operation with P.E.I. Blueberry Growers Association a Blueberry Recipe Contest was carried out with the Culinary Institute and World Blueberry Association of

North America. The contest encouraged the development and use of wild blueberries in the food service industry. The overall winner received a $500 bursary to attend the APEX restaurant show in Halifax.

Jointly with the Agricultural groups' promotion committees and the P.E.I. Development Agency, the following education and promotion programs were conducted.

Pork

The P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board takes part in provincial and maritime and national education and promotion programs.

Provincial Programs

A Home Barbecue promotion consisted of the distribution of the publication "Hear the Sizzle...Smell the Aroma" with supporting newspaper advertising. Coupon response of approximately 300.

The P.E.I. Pork Promoters which is a group of women in the pork industry. Their projects have included the development and printing of the recipe publication "Winning Ways with Pork". The recipes were winners from a pork recipe contest and the publication was launched at a workshop and demonstrated for 60 women in the industry plus a guest. Press coverage was extensive. The Pork Promoters also distributed a newsletter for all women in the pork industry.

The Sizzler - The department once again sponsored the successful private company which caters to pork barbecues anywhere, anytime, on P.E.I.

Food Fairs - A three day consumer food fair in Summerside was attended.

Maritime Programs

Maritime Programs are planned and carried out through the Pork Producers Maritime Promotion Committee.

Programs included:

A. APEX - representation at the Atlantic Province Restaurant Show in Moncton.

B. Atlantic Winter Fair and Maritime Winter Fair – representation at these two consumer fairs.

National Programs

P.E.I. is part of the national promotion arm of the Canadian Pork Council Canada Pork. In 1986 a major HRI (Hotel, Restaurant, Institution) promotion was initiated and materials were made available to P.E.I.'s use.

Eggs

The Promotion Committee of the P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board takes part in National programs developed and implemented by C.E.M.A. as well as provincially planned and implemented programs.

Their activities included:

National Programs
Participation in T.V., magazines and outdoor advertising plus other retail & HRI national promotion.

Provincial Programs

Consumer Workshops - approximately 10 presentations were delivered to Community Schools and other groups. The objective was to demonstrate the use of eggs for easy and nutritious supper and dinner meals and snacks, and to inform participants about P.E.I.'s egg industry.

Mini Food Fairs - Eggs were represented at one three day consumer fair in Summerside.

P.E.I. cooperated nationally with the "July is Egg Month" campaign by:

— radio advertising on all local stations
joint Hotel, Restaurant, Institution promotion with the
— C.P. Prince Edward Hotel where free egg luncheons were given away to radio listeners.
live radio promotion of Veggie Salad.
— cooperation with Canadian Egg Marketing Agency in the planning an promotion of a CEMA sponsored egg luncheon for 300 at the Canadian Home Economics Association Conference.

A "Kids Get Cracking With Eggs Recipe Contest" was held for youngsters 8-14. More than 60 recipes were received. Nine semi-finalists competed in a cook-off for first place. This received good media coverage.

Recipes will be complied in a folder for distribution.

Strawberries

In co-operation with the P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Association the following projects were carried out:

A. A winter promotion of newspaper advertising. It's objective was to remind consumers to use their frozen berries.

B. The testing, development and printing of a new strawberry recipe publication called "Simply Strawberries".

C. A summer promotion consisting of:
   a) newspaper recipe ads with a response of approximately 200
   b) the distribution of the publication "Island Strawberry Favourites" (15,000)
   c) the testing of video tex on growers' listings and a picnic table strawberry jam recipe. Response was excellent.

Projects involving all of the agricultural commodity groups and various agencies were also carried out within the

marketing budget. These projects come under the following objective #2.

(2) To educate the consumer about the role of the agricultural industry in the Island economy, the problems and importance of the agricultural producer in the food system and to inform producers of consumer concerns.

These projects included:

A. "Food News" ...a week day one minute food commentary carried on radio stations CFCY, CHTN, and CJRW. The Promotion Specialist was responsible for the researching, writing and airing of 260 "Food News" releases. The purpose of these releases is to educate consumers about the variety and use of Island agriculture products, and the problems and concerns in producing and marketing these products.

B. "Country Kitchen" and "Country Corner" ...a bi-weekly newspaper release with accompanying photographs, featured Island farm women and their on-farm activities. The farm women promote their products through sharing a favourite family-tested recipe of the agricultural product they produce. This is carried out with the help of the Charlottetown and Summerside District Home Economists.

C. Other - Media contributions to CornerPost and Department of Agriculture broadcasts as required.

D. Community School Island Foods Course...co-ordinated with the various commodity groups and organizations (Beef, Dairy, Potatoes, Pork, Eggs, Fruits and Vegetables, District Home Economists, Fisheries). The Development of individual food demonstrations and information programs available on request to Community School (10 maximum sessions in each commodity) individually or as a full Island foods course.

E. Kitchen Magic Workshops (Spring '86)...Seven cooking demonstrations with approximately 600 participants held across the province with the objective of promoting Island agricultrual products. This program was carried out in co-operation with the District Home Economists.

F. U-Pick Workshops (Fall '86)...Six food demonstrations with approximately 300 participants held across the province featuring recipes for small families, but which could easily be expanded for larger numbers. A cookbook of fast and easy recipes for 2, 4, or more was compiled and distributed at the workshop and to interested consumers. The objective of these workshops was to promote Island agricultural products. This program was carried out in co-operation with the District Home Economists and the Provincial Board of the Women's Institute.

G. In the Spring '86, as a result of a presentation at the Annual Meeting of Tourism Industry Association of P.E.I., a joint promotion committee was formed consisting of representatives of TIAPEI, Fisheries, Agriculture, Industry, Forestry and other government and private agencies. The Marketing Home Economist is the Department of Agriculture representative. Joint projects were indentified for further action.

H. Joint promotions with Fisheries included:
Co-sponsorship of a Farm and Fisheries Booth at Canadian Home Economics Association.
Involvement in recipe development for Food Pacific Show.
Atlantic Insight Magazine Heritage Recipe Contest advertising and recipe testing.

Planning

The Marketing Branch has a planning unit staffed by two persons who provide strategic and operational planning support to the Department in general and to the Planning Secretariat in particular. It also provides analytical, review and evaluation support services as well as program development efforts as required.

The agricultural subagreement of the five year Economic and Regional Development Agreement (E.R.D.A.) was signed in June of 1984.

The interim evaluation of the subagreement was completed this past summer and the results are now being considered prepartory to the initiation of the final evaluation slated to begin in 1988.

The Unit also provides, on behalf of the Department, appropriate agricultural and rural development planning and coordinating services to the provincial central agencies such as the Cabinet Secretariat, Intergovernmental Affairs Office and the Treasury Board.

Staff of the Unit represent the Province and provide logistical support to the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers' agricultural projects.

Staff efforts also involve sitting on the Land Development Corporation, Small Business Incentives Review and Small Farm Advisory Boards as well as the provision of support services to the Womens Institute.

The Planning Secretariat held 10 meetings during the year. The Secretariat received reports from several of the Department's commodity planning teams, as well as recommending on policy issues and projects. Planning staff provided support to the commodity teams, and assists in development of joint commodity strategies with Agriculture Canada.

Statistics and Market Information

The major highlights from 1986 include the Potato Diversion Program, computerization of the Limestone Incentive Policy, initiation of the Dairy audits, and regular statistical projects. Among these statistical projects and requests were included Free Trade data, the compilation and publishing of the Annual Statistics Sheet, computerization and miscellaneous tasks for the Women's Institute and some

work with farm commodity futures.

An analysis of grain and soybeans began the year, tracing the elevator prices with those of the eastern and western grains.

From the compilation of data from the daily and weekly market reports an information package was produced and forwarded to the farm management representatives. This is completed on a bi-weekly basis.

Upon return from the Annual Farm Markets Conference in Windsor-Detroit an investigation was conducted into the farm markets currently reported. This has resulted, to date, with the addition of hay prices and changes in the soybean report to a more comprehensive basis.

Administration of the Potato Diversion Program occupied the first half of 1986. This program began in February with the termination date in early July, although some trickled in as late as September. This Department processed approximately 2500 applications in the four rounds paying over $10 million into the farmers' hands.

Another project undertaken during the year was the initiation of dairy audits. This is a system whereby an auditor accesses the records of the fluid plants and reports the results to Marketing Council.

The Limestone Incentive Policy has been transferred onto the in-office microcomputer from the mainframe. Since Accounting Services has refused to pay lists without vendor numbers the Department has found it necessary to transfer all data to within the office computer and prepare paylists from here. This project is far from complete and currently operates without necessary controls. The necessary controls have been requested from technical services.

Liaison to Women's Institute

Staff continued close cooperation and support to the Women's Institute Board of Directors in developing and implementing a number of joint projects during the year, and in assisting the Women's Institute to identify other services available in the Department.

A study package on the role of red meat in a well-balanced diet was made available to Women's Institute branches for Canadian Meat Month (February). The package was requested by 86 branches with a total contact of approximately 1350.

The records for Women's Institute were computerized to form the basis of a data file and statistical package for use by the organization.

The Women's Institute initiated a request to the Department for assistance in providing a workshop on managing stress in farm families. A joint committee has recommended the inclusion of information on stress management in general Department conferences being planned.

Another very successful season was recorded in providing a food preservation information service. The service is jointly sponsored by Women's Institute and the Marketing Branch. In the 1986 season, just over 1000 requests were answered.

The continued development of leadership was the reason for assisting Women's Institute in providing a fall workshop series on the motivation of volunteers.

The Women's Institute continued to promote increased understanding and appreciation of the agricultural industry with their Farm to Table project. The Branch provided project staff to assist the volunteers.

A joint Island food activity with the District Home Economists promoted commodities in recipes appropriate for small families. Approximately 300 people attended the five session held.

Home Economics Program

The Home Economics Co-ordinating Committee provides an opportunity for cooperation on programs with similar objectives in the areas of farm financial management and food and nutrition. The Committee provides a means for home economics staff and organizations such as Women's Institute to plan and implement coordinated projects. Through membership in the Canadian Agricultural Extension Council, a linkage is provided to home economics extension programs in other provinces. In September, the Council was hosted in the province for its annual meeting.

Other Activities

The year included some unique opportunities to be involved in shorter term projects.

One of the trainees from an employment training program spent seven months working with the Branch. This enabled completion of some additional projects in evaluation and statistical data compilation along with providing training opportunities for the trainee.

In April, a Round Table Discussion on Agriculture in the Northeast was hosted by Prince Edward Island under the sponsorship of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers. Approximately 100 people attended the two-day event held in Charlottetown.

In June, the Department hosted staff of the marketing groups in the Atlantic region to a two-day workshop held at Mill River. Dr. Michael Heffring of Calgary was workshop leader.

Agriculture Canada Market Program

Marketing staff served in an advisory role on Agriculture Canada's Market Development Program Committee. Several clients to the program were assisted in preparing their program applications.

Administration Section

This section processes all the financial, personnel and adminsitrative transactions of the Department, and prepares the annual budget for submission to Treasury Board. In addition, the Section carries out a monitoring function to ensure that expenditures are made in accordance with the budget.

The Administration Section consists of two switchboard operators, one at 11 Kent Street and one at the Research Station, a mailman, two clerks, a Technical Services Coordinator and the Director.

The authorized established for the Department is 156 part-time and full-time positions. The total strength of the Department at year end was 21 part-time and 130 full-time for a total of 151. The Department employed 30 summer students during the past year. We also employed 76 other people as relief and temporary employees for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Technical Services and Support

This section is responsible for microcomputer development, procedures, training, daily operation, and maintenance within the department.

During the past year existing computers were upgraded and relocated to locations where there were none and new higher capacity machines replaced the former. At the present, Agriculture has one each IBM-PC with 640 K RAM and printer in O'Leary, Summerside, Montague and Souris district offices and Technical Services and Support. One Olivetti M21 portable is located in the Charlottetown District Office. The Crops, Livestock, and Farm Management Sections of Extension Branch each have an IBM-XT or compatible with 640 K RAM and 10 MB hard disk plus a printer, with the exception of Livestock which has two. An Olivetti M24 with 640 K RAM and an internally mounted 20 MB tape backup system with 25 MB hard disk was purchased for the dairy laboratory but has not been installed for lack of necessary software. The IBM-PC in Technical Services recently had a PEP board and direct line cable installed so that we may access the Sperry mainframe in Computer Services.

WordStar, dBASE III, and LOTUS are still the primary software utilized by the department but have been or are in the process of being upgraded to WordStar 2000, dBASE III PLUS, and release 2.0 of LOTUS, respectively.

Departmentally developed and regularly used programs now exceed 200. Although the Technical Services Co-ordinator and summer student developed several major programs; much time was spent in problem solving, skill upgrading, training sessions, demonstrations, computer maintenance and repairs, and attending project and committee meetings.

The department is at present in the process of preparing a major departmental computer plan which involves looking at the present situtation, procedures, and equipment in great detail and priorizing potential computer applications and projects.

Because the number of computer users has increased and staff have become more accustomed to microcomputers and their uses, present equipment can no longer meet the increased demand for computer usage in the Charlottetown locations.

Plant Industry Services Branch

The Branch is responsible for providing farmers with technical advisory services in selective areas of crop production, land management, soil and feed testing, disease control, pesticides regulations and use, and related requirements.

The main thrust of Branch activities applies to servicing the potato industry. Essential services which are required by potato farmers to keep ahead in this highly competitive business are provided by the Potato Industry Services Program. Examples of these services include disinfection of equipment, inspection of certified seed after planting, and table potatoes offered for sale within the Province, cull burial, disease and weed control, and providing information on potato production with special emphasis on the technology required for increased productivity.

The Branch has participated in work relating to projects which have had substantial impact on P.E.I. agriculture.

The pressure on P.E.I. export markets in Europe and North Africa continued during the year due to regulations imposed by the EEC system. Under these regulations the restrictions placed on the eligibility of P.E.I. to export seed potatoes to countries in the European Economic Community have resulted in significant reductions of seed potato exports to Europe. In the past two years, presentations have been made by the Department to the office of the Federal Minister of Agriculture requesting specific actions to resolve this problem with concerned European authorities.

The Department participated in the Working Group on Disaster Relief appointed by the First Minister's Conference to evaluate the impact of disaster situations on farms and the agriculture sector. The group was requested to recommend an action program which is capable of adequately assisting farmers to overcome economic losses due to disasters. As a result of this effort, there are at present negotiations conducted between the Department and Agriculture Canada to consider compensation for potato crops infected with designated diseases as part of a total Disease Eradication Program.

The recommendations of the Working Group respecting other farm disaster situations were considered and reflected in the overall National Agricultural Development strategy.

A committee of potato producers chaired by the Director of the Plant Industry Services Branch was appointed by the Department to study the ring rot situation in the province and to recommend measures and programs which are essential for the total eradication of the disease.

The committee completed its work and produced recommendations which apply to all those concerned in the disease eradication program, namely the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Canada, the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board and the potato producers. Recommendations of the report which required actions by the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture were all implemented by year-end. These include:

a) Amendment to Regulations under the Plant Disease Eradication Act that a minimum of 10 per cent of each variety grown in P.E.I. must be planted with Foundation Class seed and that planted acreage should be submitted for seed inspection under the Canada Seed Act;

b) Provision of detailed information on the disease to potato growers and trade in the Province;

c) Establishment of an all-weather truck disinfection station in the Albany area to handle disinfection of potato transport trucks on a 24-hour shift basis; and

d) Improved enforcement of potato cull burial under the Plant Disease Eradication Act.

Other recommendations which apply to Agriculture Canada programs have been referred to concerned authorities for action.

A highlight of this Branches' activities is the expansion in the delivery of information and technical services to the potato industry under the Potato Extension Program.

A total of 151 scripts were broadcast and 119 pieces of information in the form of press releases and fact sheets were delivered to potato producers during the past growing season (i.e., April to October).

Potato Industry Services

The Potato Extension Program

The Potato Extension Program uses a variety of means to generate awareness and facilitate the adoption of innovations in the potato industry to keep P.E.I. producers abreast with their counterparts. Technology development for potato production is increasing rapidly and continues to change because of the demand for high quality produce in the market place. The timely events of the program involve a constant flow of information, technology exchange tours, seminars and workshops.

Information Delivery Program

The program activities specifically targeted at potato producers included:

Radio Broadcasts
Daily one-minute crop guide and weekly 15-minute Potato Crop Report were carried by local radio stations from Mid-April through October, 1986. A total of 135 Crop Guide items and 25 Potato Crop Reports were aired during the period.

Media Releases
Periodic News releases on topics related to production management and other relevant information that concern the potato industry. In the 1986 season, a total of 70 topics were released to Prince Edward Island Media. Some events were also carried by the television media.

Periodic Publications
Pertinent information is published in the Department's monthly magazine "CornerPost"; and a regular 2-page insert called "Potato News" in the Potato Marketing Board Newsletter.

Fact Sheets
Fact sheets containing technical details on specific management practice are prepared for use as production guidelines by the potato industry. A Prince Edward Island Potato Growers Production Handbook which is updated periodically with Fact Sheets was offered in 1986.

Technology Exchange Program

The 1986 technology tours achieved the objective of providing the opportunity for representatives of the potato industry to view potato production technology and exchange experiences with their counterparts in the U.S.A. and Canada. Two tours were organized simultaneously in August, 1986.

The North Central U.S.A. Tour

The tour exposed potato industry representatives to improved seed and table potato production techniques, advances in potato technology, warehouse fumigation, packaging, processing and potato breeding in North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Special emphasis was placed on seed production techniques, variety development, farm and handling equipment and storage management. A new potato clone ND 534-4-Russet was an attractive variety which was observed to perform very well on research plots and commercial fields. The clone or variety has a great potential for count pack and bakers in the North American Market. Advances on farm equipment for bruise free potato production were observed at various manufacturers' warehouses. Modern storage management practices and packaging operations for maintaining high quality potatoes were seen. The tour displayed to the participants the various technology available for producing high quality potatoes.

The Eastern Canada Tour

The tour allowed the opportunity to uncover the extent to which their Canadian counterparts in New Brunswick and Quebec have contributed to the National potato industry, how far they have reached and the future direction of the industry. Elite Seed Farms, research stations, storage management centres, equipment manufacturers and commercial potato farms were visited. The trip imparted to the participants the progress made in these areas and the local advances in production technology.

Seminars and Workshops

Two major annual seminars were organized by the Branch. The first dealt with the issue of Plant Breeder' Rights while the second covered potato fertilizers. These seminars were both held in Summerside and attended by potato producers, extension and research staff, agribusiness people and other groups interested in agriculture.

"The Issue on Plant Breeders' Rights" seminar focused on: view points of P.E.I. Potato Industry, Exporters and the Federal Government representatives. The legal aspects of Plant Breeders' Rights were discussed. The Netherlands Experience of Plant Breeders' Rights was addressed by a representative of the ZPC, the Netherlands. The seminar exposed the members of the potato industry to the steps involved in the issue and the overall benefits from Plant Breeders' Rights if all levels of the potato industry work together.

The "Potato Fertilizer" seminar discussed the role of potash in potato production; urea in potato fertilization program, trends in plant tissue analysis and the concept of nutrient balances in interpreting and using soil test results for potatoes. Renown resource persons in potato fertility research delivered the seminar session. The concept of "Nutrient Balance" in potato production was imparted to the participants.

The Potato Extension Program keeps up with rapid technology developments in potato production, storage and handling. Different facets of the technology are demonstrated and evaluated for possible implementation on P.E.I. farms. Rapid adoptions of advanced technology is the key to producing the high quality potatoes demanded in the market place. Therefore, workshops have become important extension tools.

The program has placed emphasis on promoting concepts of proven technology through static displays, videos, films and field demonstrations. The five concepts of potato technology at static photography displays were: Land Management, Aphid Alert, Plant Breeders' Rights, U.S.A Technology Exchange Tours and Potato Fertility. Displays were used at in-province Fairs and Trade shows. Booths were set up at the Lobster Festival Summerside, and the Charlottetown Exhibition, (Old Home Week).

The program produced two video programs covering the Annual Potato Harvester Calibration Clinic at Aroostook Farm Experiment Station, Presque Isle, Maine and the 1986 P.E.I. Potato Anti-Bruise Harvester Calibration and Adjustment Demonstration at Middleton, P.E.I. A video tape on Bruise-free potato production was used in the program from the University of Idaho Extension Services.

A major field event was the 1986 Potato Anti-Bruise Campaign. The program invited a distinguished expert from the University of Idaho Extension Service who carried out a series of demonstrations of harvester calibration and adjustment to minimize potato bruising across the Island. In addition to extensive media coverage targeted at all potato industry members, some 231 potato producers participated in the field demonstrations held at various locations in all three counties during the anti-bruise campaign week, September 15-19.

1986 Crop Statistics

In Prince Edward Island, the Plant Disease Eradication Act Regulations require that growers producing in excess of 0.1 hectare of potatoes (a) plant with certified or higher class of seed and (b) plant at least 10 per cent Foundation class of each variety grown and apply to Agriculture Canada for certification. The part "b" is an amendment to the regulation introduced in the Spring to be enforced in 1987, but was recommended to growers. Therefore the usual provincial inspection was carried out on non-seed potato operations.

During the cropping season, two inspectors were employed by the Provincial Department of Agriculture to conduct field and harvest inspections on farms without any seed operations. A minimum of two inspections were carried out on each of the 51 farms covering 805.3 hectares.

A total of 67 seed growers applied for field inspection on 25,764.2 hectares planted from Elite and Foundation class seed. These growers also planted 2,457.0 hectares which were not eligible for re-certification but received inspection by Federal inspectors. P.E.I. produced 26,469.5 hectares of potatoes in the 1986 crop year.

The eight main varieties accounted for 98.2 per cent of the total production. The production data in hectares for the 1984 to 1986 crop years are presented in the following table.

Variety	1986	1985	1984
Russet Burbank	12530.2	12483.1	12095.9
Kennebec	4499.9	5705.0	6644.6
Superior	3527.1	4060.3	3103.4
Shepody	2399.7	1595.8	1170.4
Sebago	2136.0	3003.0	3139.6
Atlantic	353.7	200.0	168.8
Red Pontiac	289.9	626.0	574.7
Norchip	256.6	122.4	51.6

The Florida Test

The Florida or Winter testing of seed potatoes is an important component of both the Canadian and North American seed certification process. A sample of 400 small uniform tubers of a variety representing a seed lot were randomly selected and assembled by seed inspectors at harvest time and transported to Grand Falls, N.B., where all the Maritime lots were received. The samples were fumigated with Rindite to assist in dormancy breaking. In 1986, P.E.I. sent 966 samples for testing.

Both provincial Departments of Agriculture and Agriculture Canada Inspection staff assisted the U.S. counterparts in planting the potatoes in Homestead. Another group from these sources is drawn to conduct readings to determine the percentage of virus diseases present and mixes in each variety, if any, in the samples submitted. This provides advance information on the quality and performance of the crop in the following year.

Potato Extension Information - Delivery Program

The Plant Industry Services Branch carried out an intensive technology awareness program using the public media during the year. The program, which included the following elements, was specifically targeted toward potato producers:

1. Daily one-minute radio braodcasts, entitled Potato Crop Guide; carried on local radio stations from April through September;
2. Weekly 15-minute radio broadcasts, entitled Potato Crop Report, also ca ried on some local radio stations from April through September;
3. News releases, on topics related to the potato industry in general, with emphasis on items relating to production and management technology. In 1985 a total of 40 such topics were released to the P.E.I. media;
4. Publication of a regular section called "Eyes on Potatoes" in the Department's monthly newsletter, CornerPost;
5. Inclusion of a regular 2-page insert called "Potato News" in "PMB", the potato monthly bulletin of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board. Information in this publication is of a technical nature, related solely to production technology.

Extension Plant Pathology

This program's objective is to provide farmers with a disease identification service through either field observation and/or pathological tests and examinations. The program facilitates an increased level of awareness among Island crop producers, with a special emphasis on potato plant diseases and their control in the daily management of crops during the growing season and during the post-harvest storage phase.

During the potato growing season, there had been approximately a 50 per cent increase in demand for this service. Additional crop problems included fruit crops, vegetables and ornamentals. Specific potato diseases which have occurred throughout the year (both field and in storage) include Botrytis Vine Rot, Late Blight, Rhizoctonia, Verticillium Wilt, Fusarium Dry Rot and

Internal Brown Spot. The percentage of Rhizoctonia in potato fields has increased this year. As well, the number of Late Blight incidences have increased substantially. However, due to cool fall temperatures, the Late Blight organism has been kept under control. Information, through the publication of fact sheets and the development of disease modules, has been completed on several common potato diseases. In general, the percentage of both bacterial and fungal organisms in the potato crop was reduced.

Several pilot projects were carried out to assist and access potato grower management method: (1) evaluation of potato seed treatements, (2) topdressing with Urea fertilizer and (3) potato field monitoring program.

Late Blight Forecast Service

The Late Blight Forecast service assists the potato grower in scheduling the time of application of fungicides to control Late Blight in potatoes. It also acts as a general awareness program to alert growers of blight outbreaks. There were 11 Blight stations distributed on Prince Edward Island. Improvements in the program include media coverage and a 24-hour code-a-phone service.

The program provides a specific disease monitoring system which is essential for the on-going control of Late Blight in Prince Edward Island.

Potato Disease Control Program

The Potato Disease Control Program encompasses all programs and policies aimed toward the control and eventual eradication of Bacterial Ring Rot. These programs include:

1) On-farm disinfection of all potato handling and storage equipment;
2) disinfection of all potato transports at points of entry to P.E.I. (Borden and Wood Islands);
3) disinfection of trucks at local process plants;
4) disinfection of pallets at potato export wharves;
5) Potato Cull Burial Assistance program; and
6) inspection of tablestock acreages to ensure that the minimum class (certified) is planted.

Combined the disease control programs provide assistance for clean up and disposal of infected material, disposal of potential disease carrying material, and protection against the introduction of disease organisms. All activities are continually monitored and coordinated with related agencies to ensure that services keep pace with the potato industry.

Plant Disease Eradication Act

The Seed Incentive Program under the Plant Disease Eradication Act encourages farmers with diseased crops to clean up their operation and purchase Foundation class seed for planting. All eligible growers received assistance at the rate of $30.00 per acre.

New regulations were introduced under the Plant Disease Eradication Act to come into effect during the 1987 planting season. The intent of the regulation is to improve the class of seed being planted on P.E.I. whereby all growers must plant at least 10 per cent Foundation class of each variety grown and apply to Agriculture Canada for seed certification. In conjunction with the regulation, the remainder of all planting (0.1 hectares or more) must be certified class seed or better. The Act is enforced by the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board in its capacity as the "Agent" for the Minister of Agriculture.

An advisory committee to the Minister of Agriculture on all matters relating to the Plant Disease Eradication Act meets at least twice yearly. The Potato Disease Control Committee has representation from all areas of the potato industry including the Potato Marketing Board Chairman.

The Plant Disease Eradication Act requires that all infected farms be completely cleaned and disinfected before any further crops are grown. During the Spring of 1986, a total of 34 farms were entirely disinfected by the mobile disinfection service.

Potato Cull Burial Program

The Potato Cull Burial Assistance Program is available to all Island potato producers. The program assists growers with the burial of unwanted cull potatoes. The program has been most successful in reducing disease incidence, especially Late Blight. Surveys indicate the appearance of Late Blight has been delayed by approximately one month since the introduction of the program.

During the 1986 season, an unusually high number of burial requests were received. Large quantities of potatoes disposed of under the diversion and culls were accommodated under the program. Growers received 100 per cent assistance on burial costs. A total of 276 burials were approved by the Department of Agriculture and burials were completed by 50 different firms.

Potato Disinfection Program

The Potato Disinfection Services include on-farm disinfection of all potato handling equipment, a disinfection service for delivery trucks and facilities at major potato packing and processing plants, and a truck disinfection service for all inbound trucks at both Albany and Wood Islands. Mobile disinfection units are available year round to the industry, free of charge, with the intent of the program being to sanitize farms and trade outlets against disease infection.

Truck disinfection services previously located at the Borden scales were moved to a new location in Albany. A large turning area for trucks and an all weather station have improved the service considerably. The station is operational 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Apart from disinfecting incoming transports, local growers utilize the station to have trucks and machinery disinfected. A

disinfection unit is also stationed at the scale house in Wood Islands to accommodate all truck traffic. This service covers all ferry crossings during the Northumberland Ferry season. During 1986, approximately 800 trucks were disinfected at Wood Islands, and 8,000 at Albany.

1986 Truck Disinfection Unit

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Albany	853	723	1016	1057	910	522	67	37	225	734	1017	
Wood Islands	—	—	—	—	121	93	36	68	90	207	138	

*Stats up to December 1, 1986

Disinfection Statistics - Mobile Units 1986

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Bin Pilers	2	1	3	205	116	61	69	18	74	82	32
Bulk Boxes	5	6	17	285	393	139	131	35	165	344	238
Bull Dozers	—	—	1	26	26	63	67	3	—	2	3
Cultivaters	—	—	—	15	132	37	25	—	2	4	—
Escalaters	4	—	3	51	81	35	72	4	23	16	27
Fork lifts	2	1	3	27	42	16	16	15	14	10	13
Graders	7	5	9	67	80	43	73	27	61	14	23
Harvesters	—	—	—	10	28	15	27	6	53	80	16
Loader Bucket	17	9	19	33	35	12	26	2	12	7	4
**Pallets	40	56	105	122	66	41	41	17	152	79	67
Planters	—	—	—	13	172	181	80	2	1	—	—
Payloaders	—	—	—	6	27	42	29	4	1	5	4
Scales	2	1	7	23	40	14	59	14	39	8	14
Set Cutter	—	—	—	19	169	179	60	2	4	—	—
Stripper	—	—	3	37	32	19	45	9	12	2	5
Toteboxes	62	74	108	37	28	13	26	5	16	13	9
*Trailertruck	235	187	237	404	354	290	75	72	162	246	407
Tractor	1	—	4	60	195	65	39	10	34	99	32
Truck	150	121	219	231	301	213	57	6	1213	3299	1327
Warehouse	5	1	2	205	131	42	112	75	145	126	83
Misc.	15	43	270	253	715	166	233	105	123	140	117
Total	**547**	**1052**	**1010**	**2129**	**3163**	**1686**	**1362**	**431**	**2737**	**4576**	**2421**

*Not including trucks disinfected at Albany

**Numbers represent the number of calls for disinfection, average number of pallets disinfected =120

Disinfection services were maintained at the Summerside wharf to accommodate all pallets prior to being released to Island farms. A self contained disinfection tank was constructed to allow for disinfection indoors during cold weather and also to increase output. Approximately 800 to 1000 pallets can be accommodated daily with the new tank.

A permanent disinfection unit located at the local potato processing plant averaged 45 truck disinfections per day over a nine month period. During harvest season, the service was extended to six days per week, 18 hours per day.

Under the 1986 Potato Diversion Program, all loads of potatoes being diverted for cattle feed were spray dyed. The mobile disinfection operation was responsible for spray dying the potatoes and collecting a $20.00 fee. A total of 108 loads of potatoes were dyed.

Retail Potato Inspection

This services ensures that all potatoes and turnips retailed on Prince Edward Island are of consistent good quality, and conform to proper grade standards.

The standards set under the Agriculture Products Standards Act call for potatoes to be graded to Canada No 1, or the equivalent which has been downgraded to Canada No. 2, only because of size.

Canada No. 1 potatoes can be sold in any type of package or bulk, while Canada No. 2's must be sold washed and in polyethelene bags. The standards set under the Act will ensure that the local consumer receives the best quality potatoes.

The Retail Inspector visited with many farmers and talked with them about the quality of potatoes, and in accordance with his mandate, made several requests to have their products removed from the stores and replaced with better quality potatoes. The Inspector is well received by the Produce Managers in Island stores because of their commitment to sell top quality potatoes and turnips.

The Inspector visits Island stores for produce quality on an average of once a month in rural P.E.I., and in the larger centres, about twice a week. The number of stores visited is approximately 70 a week or 280 a month. The Inspector reports that quality is much better now than when the program first began.

The Retail Potato Inspector also acts as a Potato Liaison Officer whereby he visits the processing plant of Cavendish Farms on a regular schedule to inspect and report on the quality of potatoes going through the grading system.

In this capacity, he reports on the quality of potatoes in accordance with the terms of the contract between the growers of processing potatoes and the processing plant. Having a Liaison Officer perform this function serves to protect both parties in this vital segment of our potato industry. The quality delivered to the processing plant at Cavendish Farms has improved greatly over the past year.

Land Resource Services

Soil and Feed Testing Program

Agricultural laboratory services are provided by the Dept. of Agriculture at no charge to primary producers of Prince Edward Island. The objective is to increase the net efficiency of individual farms in respect to their fertilizer, liming and livestock feeding programs, thereby increasing the efficiency of the sector as a whole. This objective is met through specific programs administered by Plant Industry Services in soil testing, greenhouse soil testing, and plant tissue testing. In cooperation with the Livestock Nutrition Program of the Extension Services Branch, the feed testing program provides information on improved utilization of locally produced feedstuffs.

During the year, analyses were carried out on 5887 soil samples, 3436 feed samples, and 897 plant tissue samples for Prince Edward Island farmers. In addition, analyses were completed on 5973 samples for various government programs and agencies, including 1602 water samples as a part of a cooperative program with the Dept. of Community and Cultural Affairs. In all, over 98,000 individual tests or analyses were carried out on the 16,193 samples submitted for analysis. A summary of the year's work appears in Table 1.

Programs in soil and feed testing have exhibited an encouraging stability in sample and client numbers over recent years. The plant tissue program, however, has shown dramatic growth since its introduction in 1984. The 1986 tissue program experienced a growth of approximately 175 per cent over the 1985 program in both samples received and number of participating growers. This program has shown its greatest impact in the potato industry. However, it has been used by other sectors, particularly vegetable growers. By restructuring the laboratory work schedule, including the implementation of extended working hours, turnover of plant tissue samples did not exceed our stated objective of three working days during the summer growing season. This level of service is required for the program to have maximum benefit to producers.

In the early part of August, an unusually high level of internal defects were noted in tubers of the growing potato crop. In an attempt to isolate the cause of the problem, a cooperative study was set up with District Agricultural Office Staff, particularly the Summerside office. Soil and Plant tissue samples were taken from farms experiencing problems, as well as detailed cultural information. Although the symptoms of the internal defects appeared to decline as the crop matured, it remained a serious problem for some growers.

Table 1

Laboratory Statistics - 1986

Sample Description	Number Completed
Farmers' Soil	5887
Research & Special Project Soils	1186
Farmer's Feeds	3436
Research & Special Project Feeds	215
Farmer's Plant Tissue	897
Research & Special Project Plant Tissue	503
Veterinary Pathology	2370
Water Chemistry Samples	1602
Other	115
Total Samples Tested	16,193

Limestone Assistance Program

One of the key elements in the overall provincial strategy for soil and water conservation and management, as well as crop production efficiency, is the continued and adequate use of agricultural limestone. To provide incentive for Prince Edward Island farmers and landowners to use adequate amounts of limestone, the Branch provides assistance of $11.00 per tonne for all limestone used up a maximum of 180 tonnes per farm operator. During this year 1,071 producers * were assisted on the purchase of 47,725 tonnes* of limestone.

*Note: Usage on claims received April 1, 1986 to December 1986.

Soil Management Services

In fulfillment of its responsibilities to the ERDA Soil and Water Conservation Program, the Plant Industry Services Branch continued to provide program coordination and technical services. To date, 304 applications have been received, 86 since January 1, 1986. Of the 86, 70 were given to the Engineering Section for planning and design. The Soil Management Section provided planning and design services for 25 applicants, a number of which were for applications reviewed during 1985. In total, this Section provided plans for 123,175 ft. of tile drainage, 11,309 ft. of open ditching and 2432 ft. of grassed waterways. Of the 25 completed plans however, only six were actually installed - perhaps a relection of commodity prices earlier in the year.

A number of program recommendations were developed as the result of performance assessment - an on going activity. It was recommended that the level of project cost sharing be uniform at 75/25 versus the existing two level system, (i.e. 60/40 for projects involving one client and 75/25 for projects involving at least two clients). It was further recommended that a maximum 10 per cent cost overrun be accepted on all project contracts thus eliminating the necessity for contract redevelopment for minor overruns; (accepted and implemented). Several New Initiatives were developed, focusing on the need for drainage data on high density or compact soils, and drainage evaluations for existing systems installed using filtered tile lines and gravel overburden.

The Soil Management Section provided technical and evaluation services for two potato irrigation projects funded under the Productivity Enhancement Program (PEP). However, the gun irrigation project in Souris was inactive during the year. However, the centre pivot irrigation project, involving an evaluation of effects on Superior and Russet Burbank Potato varieties was very active, and numerous petiole and field samples were taken.

The Section was also instrumental in the development of a Technology Development Project (TDP) to evaluate soil erosion and runoff conditions in the Wilmot River Watershed, a Land and Water Conservation Workshop held in Summerside, the Potato Anti-Bruise Campaign, providing cartographic, photographic and graphic design services in support of other Branch Programs, and participating in a survey of attitudes concerning Soil and Water Conservation on P.E.I.

Disease & Pest Control Services

Weed and Pest Control

Aphid Alert

Island potato producers were provided with the Aphid Alert service between July and mid-September. Forty-five yellow pan monitoring traps were strategically located across the Island to monitor flights of the green peach aphid, potato aphid, and the buckthorn aphid. This program also monitored three additional insects which attack the potato crop: the potato flea beetle, tarnished plant bug, and six-spotted leaf hopper. The traps were serviced twice a week by provincial staff with the samples collected sent directly to the Charlottetown lab for identification. The number of insects collected by trap were placed on a computer with a weekly report produced. A copy of the reports were made available to each Agriculture District Office on P.E.I. plus each cooperating producer received a report on the trap located in his field. In addition to the weekly producer reports, routine updates were given to the media to indicate any significant insect population increases found. The green peach aphid, the aphid with the most potential in transmitting potato viruses, did not appear in the traps until July 31. The green peach aphid population flights were again low this year. With the aphid alert program, potato producers were able to schedule insect spray programs more effectively through the weekly information available.

Tansy Ragwort Control Demonstrations

Studies were conducted on the effects of herbicides in controlling the poisonous weed, Tansy Ragwort. Five

demonstration trials were set out across P.E.I. and the demonstration site established in 1985 was monitored.

The five demonstration sites established this year were in Souris, Cardigan, New Glasgow, Wilmot Valley, and Ellerslie. At each site 10 different herbicide combinations were replicated four times to determine the most economical treatment farmers can be assured of in achieving adequate Tansy Ragwort control. The herbicides which were evaluated in combination with one another were: dicamba (Banvel), 2, 4-D (Amine 500), and 2, 4-D (LV Ester). At the New Glasgow site three additional experimental herbicides were evaluated: (Harmony, 5300, 9674). The preliminary data collected showed farmers can reduce their costs from $23.80 per acre to about $8.00 per acre. This reduction in cost is the result of combining 2, 4-D and Banvel together as a tank mix.

At the demonstration sites public tours allowed local farmers, government personnel, and industry representatives, to see the benefits of the herbicide treatments. These tours allowed more than 300 people to observe these demonstration sites.

Flea Beetle Control Demonstration

During the past two years, the Potato Flea Beetle has caused significant potato yield loss when this insect pest is not kept under control. The demonstration site was located in the Riverdale area. The Superior variety of potato was used to assess the beetle. The demonstration assessed 16 different treatments replicated 4 times. The insecticides evaluated were 3 granular insecticides (Temik, Thimet, and Di-Syston) plus 7 foliar insecticides (Pirimor, Furadan, Belmark, Sevin, Zolone, Cymbush and Thiodan).

The demonstration site had the grandular insecticides applied at planting time and the foliar sprays applied three times. Yield was assessed in the fall from each of the plots. The granular insecticides gave excellent Flea Beetle control. The foliar sprays in most cases controlled the Flea Beetle but requires crop monitoring to properly time the insecticide application.

Weed and Pest Control Extension Services

The major publications developed and made available to Island farmers this year were:

Tansy Ragwort Fact Sheet
1986 P.E.I. Potato Pesticide Recommendations
1986 Guide to Chemical Weed Control
1986 Potato Crop Pest Control Recommendations

A Weed Alert system was developed and implemented through the five Regional District Offices. The Weed Alert was a program developed to assist in establishing locations of major weed problems. This program will be continued in 1987.

A sprayer calibration demonstration was conducted for Island farmers at Island Fertilizers in Brudenell.

Specific problems encountered this year was Corn Borer damage in potato fields and brussel sprout fields. When Corn Borer damage appears in the field, the damage is completed and there is little the farmer can do to control the pest. The only effective means of control is through a prearranged monitoring system to detect the adult moth before eggs are laid.

The major weed problems this year were Chickweed, and Corn Spurry in grain fields. Quackgrass as usual is a major problem encountered prior to crop planting. A new weed appearing more frequently this year in grain fields was Coltsfoot. This weed is extremely difficult to control when it becomes established.

Information to producers on weed and pest control activities was released through the media (ie: Farm Reports, Potato Crop Reports, and Potato Marketing Board Newsletter).

Pesticides Control Act

This was the second full year in which the Pesticide Control Act was enforced since its proclamation on July 7, 1984. This Act, under the authority of the Minister of Agriculture, regulates the sale, use, and handling of pesticides within the province.

The administration and enforcement of the Act has been streamlined under the revised edition. The Minister may delegate authority to the Director of the Plant Industry Services Branch with respect to the issuance, renewal, or cancellation of any license or permit.

There is also a section which would empower the Director to issue a "Chemical Control Order" when he feels that the use, storage, application, etc. of a pesticide may be detrimental to any person, property, or the environment. The powers of the Pesticides Control Inspector are more clearly defined in his responsibilities with respect to the issuance of all licenses and permits granted under the Act as well as investigating reports associated with any aspect of pesticide use on P.E.I.

Pesticide Control Program

Seven license classifications were available to those involved in the sale or commercial application of pesticides on P.E.I.. Dealers of commercial and/or restricted-class pesticides must now submit to a certification exam as a pre-requisite for Provincial licensing. It is recognized that it is the dealers who are in direct contact with the users of pesticides and it is important that these dealers are knowledgable in the products which they sell as well as being able to provide accurate information. Dealer facilities were inspected and observations were noted regarding their storage/display areas as they must comply with minimum standards in order to obtain pesticide sales license.

Pesticide Applicators and Dealers Licensed

Class	Type	1985	1986
A	Ground (custom)	1	1
B	Aerial	10	7
C	Structural	8	6
E	Lawn Care - non-cropland	11	19
F	Other	5	4
Dealer	Wholesale or Retail	43	44

An examination and licensing policy for the various classifications was produced and classifications will continue to be reviewed and updated when necessary. This year all structural pest control applicators were re-examined under these new licensing requirements.

Aerial Application Requires Permit

In accordance with the new Act, all aerial spraying requires a permit and conditions are now part of the regulations which deal specifically with aerial spraying. Three companies had their services available this year for the purposes of aerial applications.

Acreage Treated by Aircraft - 1986

Treatment	Acreage
Potato Insecticide and Fungicide	3662
Potato Fungicide	38559
Late Blight Systemic Fungicide	2767
Potato Herbicide (Topkill)	2179
Potato Insecticide (synthetic pyrethroids)	1582
Tobacco Insecticide	188
Micronutrients	3949
Fertilizer	500
Grass Seed	80
Total Acreage	**53466**

Pesticides Advisory Committee Meets Yearly

The Pesticide Control Act allows for better representation on the Committee with a nine member board, allowing more participation from farm and other user groups, as well as government departments. The Committee must also conduct a Public Hearing at least once a year to hear any matter concerning pesticides and their use.

This Committee has continued during the past year to improve the educational standards of those involved with pesticide sales and use within the province. New examination and licensing policies for the various license classes were reviewed and will continue to be updated.

The Committee conducted a one-day seminar in the spring of 1986 for dealers of Domestic (Home and Garden) class products. Committee members and resource people from government and industry provided leadership in each topic discussed. The program received positive comments from those who participated.

The Water Resources Section of the Department of Community Affairs have continued to keep the committee informed on activities re-well tests, etc. The Committee reported to various inter-departmental groups as it concerns The Pesticide Act and the enforcement of its regulations. The Committee supports the activities of these groups and it is with co-operative effort that improvements respecting pesticide use will be achieved.

Investigation Reports Filed

The Pesticides Control Inspector filed several investigation reports during the past year. These reports ranged from drift damage caused by ground application of herbicides to non-target drifting of aerially applied fungicides. Telephone inquiries and subsequent follow-up monitoring was conducted relating to the compliance of aerial spraying regulations as well as the reporting of pesticide poisoning incidents.

Other Programs Offered

Various monitoring programs continued again this past season, which were monitored by personnel from Federal and Provincial Departments of Environment and Agriculture. The Environmental Protection Service (E.P.S.) has continued to monitor spraying activities and conduct drift studies within the province. Also, a Pesticide Inventory Survey of all licensed pesticide dealers is being conducted.

The Island wide, toll-free number (566-1270) Pesticide Information Centre was available during the spraying season from June to September. Islanders were frequent users of this service as calls were received at the rate of 40 per month on average, with a higher incidence of calls being recorded in July and August.

A National toll-free telephone service was set up to provide pesticide information to the public. This service became an expansion of a 1985 pilot project which linked the Maritime provinces with Pesticide experts in Ottawa. Agriculture Canada - Pesticides Division personnel were available at 1-800-267-6315 to answer any questions on pesticide registration, label information, safety precautions, and other issues surrounding pesticide use.

Information regarding pesticides, dealing with the importance of safe use and handling of these products, was stressed at community school programs and other meetings.

Fact sheets, news releases, and other news items of interest were circulated through local newspapers, radio, T.V., farm and government publications, and other forms of media in an attempt to inform pesticide users along with the general public.

Information Section

The Information Section plans, co-ordinates and produces public information, and is responsible for media relations for the four branches of the department. Staffed by the Information Director, 1.5 Information Officers and secretary, this section is responsible for the dissemination of extension information through advertising, daily and weekly farm broadcasts, news and feature releases, printing brochures and publications, and producing the department's monthly agricultural magazine, CornerPost. Production Services used Extensively.

This section's production services were used extensively during 1986 with most branches publishing several agri-fact sheets, and many conference brochures and other extension material. The section also coordinates the purchase and/or publishing of joint Atlantic provinces' publications, and prepared several provincial publications such as the Department's Annual Report, Seed Potato Growers Certification List, and Personnel Directory.

Farm News Radio Service Continued

All privately-owned radio stations in the province carried Department programming which includes Farm Report, Farm Markets, CornerPost, the Farm Show, 4-H Report, Preserving the Harvest, Potato Crop Report and Potato Crop Guide.

Close to 300 daily Farm Reports were aired on stations CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93. This program is designed to alert the farm community to new technology, extension events and agricultural news.

Potato Crop Guide and Potato Crop Report are two radio programs designed for potato producers. They provide explicit production information about the potato extension program. These programs were aired April - September on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93.

"The Farm Show", formerly called This Week in Farming, is a 10-minute weekly program issued for airplay Sundays to CFCY, CHTN and Saturday to CJRW. This program features farm activities within the five agricultural districts of the province.

The Agricultural Market Report was broadcast Monday - Friday on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93. Close to 700 calls were received by the Zenith toll-free line, which provides the market report 24 hours a day.

Media Work

The Section releases a weekly news package to local, regional and national farm press; prepares agricultural features, co-ordinates the mailing of the Market Report, and assists Island Livestock breeders with media coverage of livestock competitions. It also provides assistance to farm organizations wishing to work with the media.

Photography

Photography services are offered to Department Staff in support of the department's extension information program. Approximately 200, photography orders were processed during the year.

Advertising

All advertising for the department is coordinated through the section with approximately 350 press ads and 125 broadcast ads processed.

Special Projects

This section is also responsible for special projects of an information nature. This work includes working with agricultural groups or associations, preparing agricultural brochures, and AV presentations, and special events planning. Section staff work closely with other department branches in planning and publicizing extension/information efforts.

During 1986, the Director helped co-ordinate a Land & Water Conservation seminar sponsored by the Summerside Chamber of Commerce, and represented P.E.I. on the national Publicity Committee regarding country-wide awareness on land and water conservation issues. This group provided information towards a national inventory of material on this topic and worked toward a co-ordinated Soil & Water Conservation Week for Canada.

Through the Canada Committee of Agricultural Communicators, information was provided to Agriculture Canada about P.E.I.'s agricultural curriculum, and information-sharing was carried out between the provinces and Agriculture Canada.

ERDA Participation

The Director of the Section was active on the Information Sub-Committee for the ERDA agreement. The committee oversees the use of the information guidelines under the ERDA and co-ordinates any joint media work pertaining to the federal-provincial agreement.

Women's Institute Report

Introduction

The Women's Institute is the largest rural organization in the province. It has long and close association with the Department of Agriculture. Since 1913 the two have cooperated on many programs and projects directly associated with the development of the agricultural industry and the rural community in general. Women's Institute is primarily an educational organization for rural women. A Board of Directors of elected volunteers coordinates and directs the organization's program on a provincial basis. Each branch is responsible for implementing a program appropriate to their community. The Department supports the organization in program development and implementation.

Educational Programs

The primary purpose of the Women's Institute is to provide educational opportunities for rural women. Through the network of branches throughout the province, the membership can access a variety of programs coordinated by the Board of Directors, as well as developing programs in their branch.

Since 1973 the Provincial Board has coordinated the development of materials for a Program Library. The Library makes study packages available on loan to the branches on a variety of topics. During 1986 there were study packages available on 13 topics, with 152 loans recorded.

In addition to the Program Library, the district home economists offered three topics which could be booked for presentation. During the year the home economists visited 71 groups to present their programs, with a total participation of 850-900 people.

The Provincial Board initiates development of booklets on current issues. The booklet on pension self-assessment, "It's Your Future - Be Prepared" continued to be distributed. Through financial support from the Secretary of State, a reference book was compiled for women on their own again either as a result of the death of a spouse or through separation and divorce. The booklet will be available to the general public early in 1987.

Efforts by the Women's Institute to increase public understanding and appreciation of the agricultural industry continued under the "From Farm to Table" theme. During March the committee provided coloring books to all grade three students, with an accompanying guide for use by teachers. Provincial Board representatives attending twenty-one district conventions promoted the message to Women's Institute members. During the Provincial Exhibition, the Farm to Table committee sponsored demonstrations on Island agricultural commodities in the Women's Institute Building. Three different demonstrations were presented a total of 28 times over the five days. Interest was high, and this approach to promoting Island agriculture will be expanded in '87.

The information service for home preservation of agricultural products co-sponsored by Women's Institute and the Marketing Branch of the Department of Agriculture recorded another successful season of operation. A home economist provided daily information via radio spots, and was available to answer requests via toll-free telephone. Over 1000 requests were received between July 2 and October 10 as a result of these and other program activities.

Leadership and Personal Development

The Women's Institute has provided training for its members to develop leadership skills as a necessary component of maintaining a strong organization. The focus of workshops in '86 was on motivation of volunteers. Dori Gingera and Shaunda Rossington of Manitoba Agriculture conducted a series of workshops for Provincial Board Members and the general membership. The workshops received an excellent evaluation from the 225 participants. Participation in the leadership development program ensures that the organization has members available to respond to the issues affecting women and the rural community.

Provincial Convention

"Women - Today and Tomorrow" was the theme of the seventy-third provincial convention. Dr. Pierre Turgeon from the University of Ottawa was keynote speaker. Dr. Turgeon's addresses related to the changing role of women in the family, and the family as the key unit of strength in society. The Convention provided seven concurrent workshops, each dealing with a topic or issue of concern to the women attending. Business sessions gave members an opportunity to hear reports on programs and projects over the past year. Discussion on resolutions and other new business provide guidance to the Provincial Board on areas requiring presentations on behalf of the organization, or for new educational activities. The Convention approved the initiation of an award to be presented by Women's Institute to an Island woman who has made a major contribution to the agricultural industry of the province within the past five years.

Convention delegates also received a report on the survey conducted by Women's Institute re: day care in rural areas. A presentation was made in March to the Federal Task Force on Day Care on behalf of the Women's Institute.

The Adelaide Hoodless Award of Honor to recognize an outstanding contribution to Women's Institute was awarded to Louise Marchbank of Traveller's Rest. The Helen Herring Scholarship of $500 was presented to Heather Gillis of Montague who is a third year student in home economics at the University of Prince Edward Island. Prizes in the program competition for the best yearly program were received by Long River, Alberry Plains and Cross Roads.

Provincial Exhibition

Participation in the Handcrafts and Arts Division of the Provincial Exhibition showed continued growth in '86. There was an increase of approximately 30 per cent in the number of entries exhibited in the categories of food, flowers, handcrafts, photography and painting. Through the efforts of an active committee, the support of approximately 150 volunteers, and the cooperation of the Hillsborough Trotting Club, the Women's Institute Building continued to be a major attraction for the Provincial Exhibition.

Public Relations/Information

In addition to the use of various media to publicize specific events, the Women's Institute have two major, on-going activities in public relations/information.

An internal newsletter of 12 pages is prepared quarterly for circulation to all 2800 members and some private subscribers. A weekly radio program is provided through the support of the local radio stations. The Women's Institute hostess for the program highlights Women's Institute projects as well as providing information on current concerns or programs of interest to the general public.

Linkages

Through representation to a number of other boards and organizations, Women's Institute supports and cooperates with other organizations who share similiar purposes.

On a national basis, Women's Institute in Prince Edward Island is part of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada which has similiar organizations in every province in Canada. Beatrice Reeves of Cross Roads is the current president of the national organization. Through representation on the national board of directors. Women's Institute in this province are able to share in shaping the directions of programs and policies of the national organization.

On the international level, Women's Institute is a member of an international organization of rural women, the Associated Country Women of the World, A.C.W.W. has a membership of approximately eight million in 70 countries. In May, seven delegates from the organization attended the international conference in Killarney, Ireland. Through the international conference and organization, projects to assist women in developing countries are initiated and operated.

The award for Woman of the Year was co-sponsored by Women's Institute, Summerside Lobster Carnival and Livestock Exhibition and County Fair Mall. This annual award recognizes Island women who have made an outstanding contribution to their community. The recipient in 1986 was Mrs. Mary Hooper of Milton.

Women's Institute is officially represented on the Board of Directors of the Transition House Association. Women's Institute members have supported the Association both financially and materially since its establishment. Each year a major project for the Association is financed by Women's Institute, and identified cooperatively by Women's Institute and the Association.

Department of Agriculture
Financial Statement
Year Ending March 31, 1986

	Expenditure	Revenue (Other than ERDA)
Administration	488,378.12	
Marketing		
Marketing	3,570,857.37	262.35
Hog Stabilization	2,027,446.67	
Commodity Promotion & Education	173,368.01	
	5,771,672.05	262.35
Plant Industry Services		
Branch Management	201,216.54	
Soil & Feed Testing	251,723.49	
Disease & Weed Control	119,541.56	1,170.00
Potato Industry Services	460,116.25	
Potato Disease Control	349,908.77	1,040.00
Limestone Incentive	569,597.60	
Land Resources	104,576.84	
	2,056,681.05	2,210.00
Extension Services		
Branch Management	82,561.66	
Farm Development	114,870.97	12,754.11
District Offices	837,723.26	
Livestock Services	2,736,755.41	14,304.34
Crops	312,816.78	
Rural Development	429,623.84	6,178.34
Agriculture Education	267,659.00	
Grants	247,477.14	25,350.00
Engineering	276,556.09	
Small Farms Program	217,856.73	
Community Pastures	164,079.86	106,664.54
	5,687,980.74	165,251.33
Animal Industry Services		
Branch Management	192,770.95	4,222.00
Veterinary Pathology	615,462.57	355.00
Artificial Breeding	218,300.00	
Microbiology	110,535.15	50.00
Dairy Laboratory	369,005.63	567.15
Veterinary Services	654,537.00	5,898.40
Swine Inspection	44,223.96	
	2,204,835.26	11,092.55
Information	178,975.06	
P.E.I. Marketing Council	102,702.91	
P.E.I. Crop Insurance	197,533.88	100.00
P.E.I. Milk Commission	588.78	987.78
Department Total	16,689,347.85	179,904.01

Under the Canada P.E.I. ERDA Agri-Food Development Agreement Agriculture Canada cost shared in the above programs and contributed $2,093,181 toward the costs.

Prince Edward Island
Commodity Supply and Consumption
Balance Sheet - 1986

Commodity		Total Estimate Provincial Supply	Total Estimate Provincial Consumption	Surplus or (Deficit)
Asparagus	(lbs.)	0	42,000	(42,000)
Beans	(lbs.)	31,500	254,000	(222,500)
Beets	(lbs.)	104,000	145,000	(41,000)
Cabbage	(lbs.)	5,456,000	1,800,000	3,656,000
Carrots	(lbs.)	6,750,000	2,200,000	4,550,000
Cauliflower	(lbs.)	250,000	830,000	(580,000)
Celery	(lbs.)	0	1,250,000	(1,250,000)
Sweet Corn	(lbs.)	337,500	850,000	(512,500)
Cucumber	(lbs.)	94,000	705,000	(611,000)
Lettuce	(lbs.)	336,000	2,700,000	(2,364,000)
Onions	(lbs.)	0	1,900,000	(1,900,000)
Parsnips	(lbs.)	300,000	42,000	258,000
Peppers	(lbs.)	0	556,000	(556,000)
Radish	(lbs.)	0	152,000	(152,000)
Rutabaga	(lbs.)	13,750,000	734,000	13,016,000
Tomatoes	(lbs.)	25,000	2,100,000	(2,075,000)
Strawberies	(lbs.)	1,960,000	530,000	1,430,000
Blueberries	(lbs.)	750,000	45,000	705,000
Potatoes	(cwt.)	17,850,000	197,000	17,653,000
Brussel Sprouts	(lbs.)	312,000	502,000	(190,000)
Broccoli	(lbs.)	410,000	563,000	(153,000)
Eggs	(doz.)	3,055,000	1,600,000	1,455,000
Chicken	(lbs.)	1,213,000	5,600,000	(4,387,000)
Turkey	(lbs.)	24,000	1,125,000	(1,101,000)
Lamb	(lbs.)	62,000	705,000	(643,000)
Pork	(lbs.)	29,750,000	8,200,000	21,550,000
Beef	(lbs.)	24,500,000	11,288,000	13,212,000
Fluid Milk	(L.)	13,430,000	13,430,000	0

The above table provides an estimate of Prince Edward Island's production and consumption of selected agricultural commodities, based on national consumption trends for 1986. A deficit position means that provincial consumption exceeds provincial production. This could mean that a marketing opportunity exists for the production of that commodity in the province provided of course the commodity can be successfully and competitively grown.

A surplus position means that provincial production exceeds provincial consumption. Normally this commodity would be exported from the province.

P.E.I. Women's Institute	17,500.00
National Farm Womens' Conference	6,981.25
P.E.I. School Milk Foundation	84,500.00
P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	50,167.61
National Farmers Union	12,626.93
Farm Centre Association	3,259.16
Women in Support of Agriculture	1,332.16
P.E.I. Junior Farmers	1,621.62
West Prince 4-H Leaders Council	620.00
P.E.I. 4-H Council	24,000.00
Summerside Farmers Markets	7,000.00
Charlottetown Farmers Market	15,000.00
West Prince Farmers Market	4,600.00
Souris Farmers Market	1,500.00
Wood Island Farmers Market	4,120.00
Montague Farmers Market	1,500.00
Charlottetown District 4-H Council	1,200.00
Montague District 4-H Council	900.00
Souris District 4-H Council	900.00
Summerside District 4-H Council	900.00
West Prince District 4-H Council	600.00
P.E.I. Horticulture Association	2,800.00
Island Hay & Straw Co-op	13,526.01
P.E.I. Greenhouse Growers Assoc.	2,600.00
P.E.I. Pedigreed Seed Growers	1,675.00
Potato Exporters Limited	13,000.00
P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board	77,922.24
Potatoes Canada	29,166.67
Canadian Horticulture Council	2,400.00
P.E.I. Tobacco Commodity Board	6,891.49
P.E.I. Strawberry Growers	2,500.00
P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Association	24,600.00
P.E.I. Blueberry Growers	500.00
P.E.I. Organic Growers Association	552.22
Potato Producers Assn. of P.E.I.	3,872.99
Maritime Angus Association	2,500.00
P.E.I. Draft Horse Association	1,796.51
P.E.I. Hog Commodity Mktg. Board	29,845.00
P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board	5,153.00
Maritime Test Station	5,000.00
P.E.I. Quality Swine	20,000.00
P.E.I. Artificial Breeders Assn.	200,400.00
P.E.I. Beekeepers Co-op	5,600.00
P.E.I. Dairy Goat Association	100.00
Atlantic Standardbred Breeders Assoc.	30,314.52
P.E.I. Dairy Producers Assn.	1,904.31
P.E.I. Holstein Fresian Assn.	8,063.00
P.E.I. Holstein Breeders Assn.	8,000.00
P.E.I. Angus Breeders Assn.	500.00
P.E.I. Hereford Breeders Assn.	500.00
P.E.I. Shorthorn Breeders Assn.	500.00
P.E.I. Sheep Breeders Assn.	570.25
P.E.I. Hunter	1,000.00
P.E.I. Gurnsey Breeders Assn.	551.00
Island Quarter Horse Fraternity	5,000.00
P.E.I. Purebred Poultry Farmers	150.00
P.E.I. Swine Breeders Assn.	260.96
Joint Beef Breeders Conference	500.00
P.E.I. Ayrshire Breeders Assn.	2,000.00
West Prince Livestock Assmb. Co-op	30,000.00

Notes: These payments are those support monies which were paid from Grant Accounts. If support was paid from other accounts, they will not be included here. There may also be grants paid to individuals which could also be considered grants to farm groups.